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Talks on La Fiesta rehab break down

» New RFP to be issued soon on revitalizing former mall

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Inos

After lengthy negotiations that began in 2009, the Fitial administration has rejected Bridge Capital LLC's proposal to operate video lottery at the former La Fiesta Mall in San Roque.

Acting governor Eloy S. Inos said the administration will soon issue a new request for proposals on how to revitalize the long-vacant facility, which

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NMI has new signatory airline

» Fly Guam's maiden flight to Saipan on Friday

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

A new airline is coming to the Commonwealth starting this week with over 100 passengers from Hong Kong.

Fly Guam will join Asiana Airlines and Delta Air Lines as official signatory airlines for the CNMI, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero yesterday.

He disclosed at the Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting at Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan that the new airline's maiden flight is on Friday, using B727-200 aircraft.

He said Fly Guam intends to fly to the CNMI twice weekly using the Guam-Saipan-Hong Kong and Hong Kong-Saipan-Guam routes.

Fly Guam's parent company is Air Micronesia, which is also planning to

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CUC: Smart water meters continue to fail

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

RELATED NEWS
CUC fails to meet deadline to fill system supervisor posts. PAGE 3

There appears to be nothing smart about the performance of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s smart meters.

CUC executive director Abe Utu Malae disclosed that the agency's effort to provide all customers with meters that will accurately record water consumption is being hampered by smart meters that are breaking down en masse.

The 1,189 unmetered customers in August 2010 went down to 1,043 in February this year, Malae said, but then 407 smart meters failed in the interim.

He said CUC is now running after its vendor to have the defective units replaced.

See CUC on Page 4

FUTURE WORDSMITHS

Third grade students at William S. Reyes Elementary School hold dictionaries they received for free yesterday morning through the Rotary Club of Saipan and Delta Air Lines' dictionary project, which involves the distribution of over 1,000 dictionaries to third grade public school students on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. The students were joined by third grade advisers, school principal Naomi Nishimura, and Rotarians Victoria Concepcion, Amie Javier, and Ning Reyes, who presented the dictionaries.

See story on Page 6 CLARISSA V. DAVID

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Local

Saipan lawmakers can be 'acting mayor' in debated local bill

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

For almost an hour, Saipan lawmakers debated yesterday a local bill that ended up allowing not only the Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council presiding officers but also the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation officers to become acting mayor when the Saipan mayor is off island and the municipal council members are also unavailable—but with restrictions.

Almost another hour was also spent debating a resolution asking Assistant Secretary for Insular Affairs Tony Babauta to authorize $6 million in capital improvement project funds allocated for the CNMI to build a new junior high school.

House Local Bill 17-6, authored by Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), seeks to apply the natural succession of chain of command in cases when the Saipan mayor is "physically absent" from Saipan.

After a long debate, HLB 17-6, Draft 2 passed by a vote of 17-1.

Only Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) voted "no," while three others were absent during the voting.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

From left, House Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), Rep Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), Rep. Fred Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), and Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) show different postures as they listen to their colleagues speak during the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation session yesterday morning on Capital Hill.

The local bill seeks to pattern this after the constitutional provision designating the lieutenant governor to become acting governor when the governor is absent or unavailable. If the lieutenant governor is also absent or unavailable, the Senate becomes the acting governor.

Under current law, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation gives the mayor the sole discretion to designate who shall be the acting mayor when he or she is off island.

Ogumoro said this provision authorizes "only" the mayor to appoint anyone within his office or from the community—elected or not—to become acting mayor in his absence.

In February, for example, Saipan Mayor Donald Flores designated Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council member Ralph Yumul as acting mayor for a week.

Municipal Council chair Ramon B. Camacho had expressed disappointment he was not named acting mayor. He had said that proper protocol should be followed, designating the chairman of the municipal council as acting mayor when the mayor is off-island.

Camacho was at the House session yesterday, mainly to observe the proceedings on the bill.

Ogumoro's bill proposes that the municipal council chair be appointed acting mayor. If the municipal chair is also absent or unavailable, then the vice chair will be appointed acting mayor.

The bill was later amended to authorize the presiding officers of the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation to carry out the duties of the absent mayor if municipal council members are also not available.

When the delegation chairman is not available, then the vice chairman will become acting mayor, or the floor leader when he's also not available.

$6 million for new school

Saipan lawmakers also debated SNILD Resolution 17-4, which endorses the Public School System's plan to build a new junior high school in Koblerville adjacent to Saipan Southern High School.

The resolution, authored by Rep. Tony Sablan (R-Saipan) and co-sponsored by 20 other members, also requests Assistant Interior Secretary Babauta to authorize $6 million in CIP funds allocated to the CNMI to be used to build this new junior high school.

Lawmakers also discussed whether the expenditure authority for CIP funds should be the Legislature or the governor.

In the end, the delegation unanimously adopted the resolution.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan first brought up in January the idea of using federal funds to build a new junior high on Saipan.

The CNMI is set to get $9.4 million in Covenant money in fiscal year 2012, a half-a million less than in fiscal year 2011, and $3 million less than in 2005.

Ongoing projects at 3 airports estimated at $62 million

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Ongoing projects at the CNMI's three airports are estimated at $62 million but many of them have been on the Commonwealth Ports Authority's books for five years.

Speaking at yesterday's Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting at the Fiesta Resort & Spa, CPA executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero said the delays were due to unmet requirements and standards that have now been rectified.

See PROJECTS on Next Page

CUC fails to meet deadline to fill system supervisor posts

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has failed to meet another deadline to comply with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's requirement—to hire five certified operators in charge of the water and wastewater systems by March 1, 2011.

CUC legal counsel Deborah E. Fisher on Tuesday notified the U.S. District Court for the NMI, EPA counsel Bradley R. O'Brien, and Attorney General Edward T. Buckingham about the agency's failure to meet the deadline as specified in the second joint stipulation.

Fisher said that, per its submission to EPA on Dec. 31, 2010, CUC has already hired four certified operators—called direct responsible charge operators or DRCs—out of five required positions.

The four DRCs, she said, reported for work before March 1, 2011, but one individual decided not to stay and is returning to the U.S. mainland.

CUC has been hiring professionals, both U.S.- and non-U.S. citizens, needed to meet the requirements of the stipulated orders and to efficiently provide utilities services.

Fisher said they have already advertised the additional wastewater collections level 2 certified position, which was not filled by Dec. 31, 2010.

CUC's water and wastewater division believes it will be able to fill the remaining position this month, March, from the current pool of applicants it has obtained.

"CUC is now making arrangements to advertise for the position which will be open due to the unexpected departure of one of the individuals from the original group hired," Fisher said.

Finally, she said, CUC needs to staff one DRC for water on Saipan.

Fisher said CUC intends to fill that position with a field employee who has a water distribution level 3 certification and water treatment level 3 certification.

"In the meantime, our division manager and wastewater treatment plan operations supervisor both have the water certifications that are necessary for this position, and should be able to supervise where necessary," she added.

In November 2010, EPA asked the federal court to make it clear to CUC that its "quarterly negotiations" with EPA due to continued failure to comply with the agreed upon deadlines "is not acceptable."

The second joint stipulation between CUC and EPA provides new deadlines for an interim financial plan, the hiring of qualified DRCs, reorganization plan, full metering and billing, a complete chlorination and disinfection program, and procedures to generate the scope of work for CUC's master plan.

PROJECTS

From Page 2

These ongoing projects, funded by the Federal Aviation Administration, include the renovation of the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport's Airport Rescue and Firefighter facility.

Deleon Guerrero said CPA has already awarded the $17 million contract to Guam Pacific Power Corp. Inc., which will soon start construction work.

He described the project's building design at 60 percent and its first phase will be completed in a year's time. Deleon Guerrero estimates a two-year completion time for the entire project.

Deleon Guerrero said FAA has already advised CPA to assist Micronesian airports in their ARFF training requirements and certifications. He said only Saipan and Hawaii have instructors authorized by FAA to train airport firefighters.

The new ARFF regional facility will be a two-story building with state-of-the-art equipment, new tower control, classrooms, and will have a mock plane.

Another major undertaking at the Saipan airport is the ongoing rehabilitation of its main runway—runway 7/25—which amounts to $19 million to date.

Deleon Guerrero also reported that progress is being made in the conversion of the Tinian commuter terminal project, along with other projects at the Rota airport.

CPA is also monitoring the renovation work at the Transportation Security Administration's office at the airport, which U.S. Customs and Border Protection will use as its station here. Congress allocated $10 million to CBP for this project, he added.

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MVA sees 50,000 attendees at Japan Golf Fair 2011

The Marianas Visitors Authority reached out to nearly 54,000 participants of this month's 45th Japan Golf Fair 2011 in Tokyo—almost a 10-percent increase in attendees over 2010.

The annual event is the largest golf fair in Japan, the largest tourism market for the Northern Mariana Islands. This year, the fair attracted 34,000 consumers, 19,000 business representatives, and 710 media representatives to Tokyo International Exhibition Center on Feb. 18-20, 2011.

The MVA office, with assistance from the Mariana Resort & Spa, distributed brochures on golf, hotels, optional tours, and Northern Marianas tourism in general. Giveaways were also distributed to entice visitors to learn more about this resort destination.

In December 2010, 10 percent (1,623) of visitors to Saipan, Tinian, and Rota indicated golf as one of their primary travel plans while on the islands. The MVA also noted a growing number of sizable groups traveling to the Northern Marianas for golf over the last year.

"A number of strategic factors have lead to an increase in group golf tours over the last year, particularly golf academies," said MVA marketing manager Bruce Bateman. "By promoting our beautiful courses regularly at Japan Golf Fair and then supporting arriving tour groups with guidebooks, welcome banners, and economical giveaways, the MVA has been able to work closely with our local golf courses to attract larger numbers of these high spending niche market travelers."

Golf courses in the Northern Marianas include seven on the island of Saipan, one on Rota, two planned for Tinian, and several driving ranges to tune up the game before playing:

■ **Kingfisher Golf Links** (18 holes): Strong elevation changes and several blind holes make this course designed by Graham Marshall challenging yet playable. Dramatic ocean views abound from both upland and cliff line holes. A first-class restaurant/bar facility, a pair of teahouses overlooking the sea, and a pro shop round out the amenities of this course.

■ **Laolao Bay Golf Resort** (two 18 holes): Two courses designed by Greg Norman offer spectacular ocean views. The 6,334-yard East Course requires more accurate play, with narrower fairways and four consecutive cliff line holes. The 6,805 West Course offers more expansive fairways but still challenges with blind holes and over water shots. A striking new clubhouse with a large pro shop and a restaurant awaits players and shoppers.

■ **Coral Ocean Point Resort** (18 holes): This 7,014-yard course designed by Larry Nelson is highlighted by ocean winds and two tees over the reef-fringed Tinian channel. A pro shop beckons, and a small restaurant at the hotel and a snack shack on the course keep golfers well fed.

■ **Marianas Country Club** (18 holes and 9 holes): This course winds around a plateau at 300 feet above sea level and offers a bird's eye view of the shining Philippine Sea and the Saipan lagoon. While course is open, challenging elevation changes, a few very narrow fairways, and strategically placed flame trees and swaying palms balance more conventional holes and keep players engaged. A small, 9-hole par 3 course located near the hotel can be used as a warm-up, for practice, or to introduce new golfers to the game. A gift shop and a clubhouse/restaurant complement this course.

■ **Saipan Country Club** (9 holes): Nine holes remain of the original short, narrow 18-hole course built for the U.S. Navy in the 1960s. This executive course provides a nice tune-up for other full-length courses. Carts are not allowed so carrying or pulling your clubs on a hand cart is mandatory.

■ **Rota Resort & Country Club** (18 holes): The fabulous course on the island of Rota measures 7,093 yards and is framed by endless ocean views and a lush jungle background punctuated by small lakes, interesting rock formations, and the occasional exotic bird. Well-groomed fairways and undulating greens offer a challenge to both low and high handicappers.

The Japan Golf Fair is organized annually by Japan Golf Goods Association. ***(MVA)***

Shell hikes pump prices by 10 cents

As anticipated, Shell Marianas also increased its pump prices on Saipan by 10 cents a gallon yesterday—a day after Mobil raised its prices by 10 to 15 cents a gallon as crude oil breaks $100 a barrel.

Because of the differences in the amount of increases, Shell's diesel is 5 cents cheaper than Mobil's.

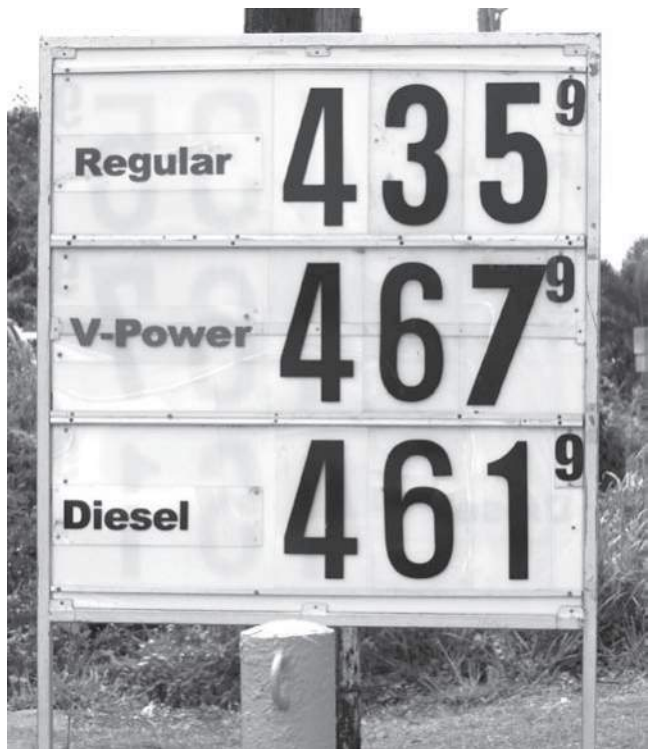
But Mobil and Shell's regular unleaded gasoline cost the same: $4.359 a gallon.

Their super/premium unleaded gasoline also costs $4.679 a gallon.

Shell's diesel is $4.619 a gallon, while at Mobil, it's $4.669 a gallon.

Mobil and Shell's latest price hike comes barely 11 to 12 days after they increased their prices by 5 cents and barely five weeks after an 8-cent increase.

The latest price increase is the third for 2011, and the ninth since 2010. As a result of prices changes since February 2009, Saipan motorists have seen an increase of at least $1.70 a gallon in gasoline prices. ***(Haidee V. Eugenio)***



Shell Marianas hikes its gas pump prices by 10 cents a gallon yesterday, a day after Mobil Oil Marianas also increased its prices by 10 to 15 cents a gallon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

TALKS

From Page 1

continues to cost the CNMI government some $200,000 a year in lease payment.

He said Bridge Capital's offer is "something that's difficult to work with, at least in our view."

Inos said the administration does not have a problem having video lottery at La Fiesta, but it should be part of a bigger tourism project at the complex that has three main buildings: La Fiesta I, II, and III.

"We'd like to see this facility up and running and revitalized to help in making it part of destination [package] and help the economy. …Video lottery is not going to be a problem if it's going to be part of an overall [tourism project] because you're not just going to do video lottery here and keep others [idle]," he told *Saipan Tribune.*

Lawmakers, for their part, said in these tough economic times, the government has to do all it can to enhance its only industry, which is tourism.

"With $200,000 per year in lease payments, the administration needs to decide what to do with the facility," said Rep. Ray Yumul (R-Saipan).

Yumul said the Legislature needs to support the administration's decision.

The CNMI government has been paying for the lease of the La Fiesta property, yet it has not earned a single cent from it since 2004.

At one time, the government moved the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. office to the vacant La Fiesta but that was later rescinded. It later planned to make it into an educational center under Northern Marianas College but that also fizzled out.

Inos, who oversees government finances, said the administration will issue in a week or so a new RFP on how to revitalize the vacant mall.

"This one is probably a little broader in scope to allow it for more flexibility as to what they can do with La Fiesta," he said.

Bridge Capital chief executive officer John K. Baldwin's office has yet to respond to questions whether it will respond to the new RFP that will be issued by the government.

Baldwin, who was unavailable for comment yesterday, said in November that Bridge Capital was still pursuing its proposed video lottery at La Fiesta, but Inos said the administration decided to recently reject the proposal.

Bridge Capital was the only private firm that responded to the Fitial administration's RFP involving the lease, development, or revitalization of La Fiesta Mall in March 2009.

The RFP said special consideration will be given to proposals that will develop the La Fiesta property "into a promising and sustainable tourist attraction and entertainment complex," and the lease, redevelopment, and revitalization of the La Fiesta property includes upgrading and renovating all existing facilities within the complex.

Bridge Capital, an international investment banking and asset management company headquartered on Saipan, bought interest on the La Fiesta property from the Japanese-owned Coco's Lagoon Development in March 2007.

Baldwin had said Bridge Capital is willing to invest $5 million in La Fiesta to make it a tourist attraction again.

CUC

From Page 1

"CUC is working with the Water Task Force to pursue the vendors of the so-called smart meters that have failed by the thousands since they were installed in 2004," said Malae.

He explained that the vendor had already replaced many of the meters that broke down the first time but hundreds of those have also failed and continue to fail.

"The vendor has resorted to making it more difficult and costly for CUC to prove that the $93 meter has failed for warranty acceptable reason. This situation has turned out to be a nightmare for CUC, the Water Task Force, [and] the customers of CUC as well," he added.

Malae said that CUC has re-directed resources to the metering effort. New meter readers were hired and four have been trained to install meters as well.

During Tuesday's hearing, Malae said the U.S. District Court urged CUC to complete the metering of all water customers as soon as possible.

Funds for oil pipeline project short of $1.8M

Malae also disclosed that the lack of funding continues to hamper the completion of its oil pipeline project in Lower Base. It is currently short by $1.8 million.

CUC, he said, is pursuing several funding sources.

CUC's grant application with the U.S. Department of Energy was recently turned down due to the project's ineligibility.

The oil pipeline project in Lower Base is part of $3.864 million worth of projects to address stipulated order 2, which deals with oil management.

"Our rate consultants have written to CUC that it is inadvisable to increase the base rates in order to raise $10 million to construct the pipeline as well as complete other stipulated order 2. Loaning the money or otherwise incurring debt would still call for a rate increase," said Malae.

The rate consultants also believe that, with increases in fuel costs, any increase in the base rate could not be sustained by the economy and would result in hardship, he said.

"Our best hope for financing some of the [stipulated order] 2 projects, including the pipeline, is the $3.8 million grant application that we submitted a second time to the U.S. Office of Insular Affairs," said Malae.

The oil pipeline project and the cleaning up of power plants 1 and 2 are among the top two priorities in the second stipulated order.

'Court pleased with new hires'

According to Malae, U.S. District Court Judge James Carter, during Tuesday's hearing, was pleased that CUC has finally hired a deputy executive director for water and wastewater, Alan Fletcher. The position has been vacant since March 2010. The judge also praised the filling of other positions, including certified water and wastewater operators.

To ensure that CUC gets the most suitable candidates for professional and technical positions, Malae said a "headhunter" company will be assisting them in the recruitment process.

AIRLINE

From Page 1

soon launch an airline called Fly Marianas that will initially fly the Saipan-Guam-Palau route, Deleon Guerrero said.

"Once they get the second plane [Fly Marianas] they will increase the flights and eventually may start the daily flight schedule here," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Air Micronesia was launched in 1968 as a subsidiary of Continental Airlines. With Continental now merged with United Airlines, Air Micronesia goes back to its roots as a Pacific centered airline company.

CPA is slated to sign today the airline users' agreement with Fly Guam. The new airline will use Freedom Air's hangar at the Francisco Ada International Airport.

"We welcome them…because these are additional passengers and additional income to the airport and to the economy," he told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Besides Fly Guam, Sichuan Airlines is also expected to bring flights to the Commonwealth, Deleon Guerrero said. The company is now completing both local and federal requirements to make it happen.

"They're still working on those permits and we're optimistic about their plans," he said, adding CPA is in constant communication with Sichuan Airlines' representatives.

Sichuan Airlines Co. Ltd. has filed with the U.S. Department of Transportation an application to allow it to provide air services between the CNMI and China as early as February 2011. The airline is based in Chengdu, the capital of the Sichuan Province. It has been in operation since 1988 and its fleet currently consists of 57 aircraft, with 29 additional aircraft on order for delivery through 2013.

Wiseman allows ex-convict to testify against Quitano

» Witness: Quitano did not report for work during day of robbery

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Superior Court allowed yesterday one of the suspects in the armed robbery of 24 Hours Pawnshop to testify against Fernando C. Quitano, who is on trial for his alleged role in the robbery.

The chief accountant of Island Apparel also testified yesterday that Quitano, a former co-worker, did not report for work on Oct. 23, 2009—the day when the robbery occurred—as shown in his time sheet.

The daylight armed robbery staged by two masked men at 24 Hours Pawnshop in Chalan Kanoa happened in the afternoon of Oct. 23, 2009. The pawnshop's cashier and its 72-year-old owner, Jung Sang So, were injured in the attack.

In his order yesterday, Associate Judge David A. Wiseman denied Quitano's motion to prevent the Office of the Attorney General from offering any testimony by Steven M. Suzuki.

Woodruff had objected to the introduction of Suzuki's testimony, arguing that the government failed to timely disclose the witness as required by the court's pretrial order and therefore violated Quitano's right to due process.

In denying the objection, Wiseman said that although a court can strike a witness who is not properly disclosed, the decision is up to the court's discretion.

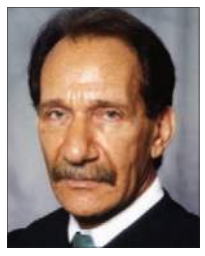
Citing a 9th Circuit ruling, Wiseman said it is not an abuse of discretion for a trial court to allow a witness to testify where the government offers a credible reason for its failure to identify a witness in its earlier disclosures.

The judge determined that the government has acted in good faith and has presented a credible reason for its failure to identify the witness earlier.

Police said Quitano, Marlon Martin, and Suzuki conspired to rob the pawnshop.

According to court records, Suzuki was arrested on Nov. 2, 2009, after being served with an arrest warrant.

Suzuki agreed to cooperate with law enforcement in its investigation of the crime in exchange for being released on his own recognizance. Suzuki also agreed to assist and give accurate information to police.


Wiseman

Assistant attorney general Russell Lorfing, who was assigned to handle the case against Quitano only four weeks ago, only learned of the agreement between the government and Suzuki on Feb. 22, 2011. He then disclosed the information about Suzuki to Woodruff.

With only a few days before the start of Quitano's trial, the government amended its witness list to add four names, including Suzuki. Woodruff objected to this.

Wiseman pointed out, though, that under the circumstances, "the court finds that imposing a less severe sanction will be more appropriate."

Wiseman said he is convinced that Quitano was not completely surprised by Suzuki's possible testimony. He said Quitano was aware that Suzuki was one of the original defendants in the case and that charges were subsequently dropped.

The judge said Woodruff had admitted that he knew of Suzuki and suspected that Suzuki was the government's cooperating source.

"Thus, the court finds that defendant was on notice of Suzuki's possible testimony and would not be unduly prejudiced by the government's noncompliance with the court's pretrial order," he pointed out.

Suzuki started his testimony yesterday afternoon. Woodruff was cross-examining Suzuki when the court adjourned the trial.

Yesterday morning, the chief accountant of Island Apparel testified that based on their time sheet, Quitano did not report for work on the day in question as he had no time in.

The accountant said employees use their fingerprint to time in.

An Island Apparel printer also testified yesterday that, when the prosecution showed him a footage of the robbery, he identified Quitano as one of the two persons.

The printer said that, based on the suspect's walk, build and height, he is 80 percent positive it was Quitano, who was his coworker for three years.

He said he could not say 100 percent because the suspect was wearing a mask.

Ex-CSC chief returns to Rotary

Former CNMI Civil Service Commission executive director Norbert Sablan was inducted back to the Rotary Club of Saipan during its regular meeting Tuesday at the Hyatt Regency Saipan's Giovanni's restaurant.

Sablan

Rotary president Glen Perez installed Sablan who was a Rotary member from 1987 to 2003.

"It's good to be back," Sablan told his fellow Rotarians.

Sablan, who graduated from the University of Guam with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration, served as Rotary's director of community service, secretary, and vice president before assuming the position of president from 1990 to 1991.

He then served as international services director from 1991 to 1992 and became a Paul Harris fellow in 1995. ***(Clarissa David)***

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CNMI gets $411K in grants at start of IGIA meeting

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Assistant Interior Secretary Anthony M. Babauta presented two grants worth $411,260 to the CNMI during yesterday's 2011 Interagency Group on Insular Areas meeting in Washington, D.C.

The first, worth $306,000, is for the continuation of the Brown Tree Snake Interdiction Program through fiscal year 2011. The second, worth $105,260, is for continuation of the CNMI Office of the Public Auditor education auditor/investigator training program with the Interior Department's Office of the Inspector General.

Babauta was joined at the IGIA meeting by chief executives and congressional leaders from each of the U.S. insular areas, among them CNMI Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, American Samoa Gov. Togiola Tulafono, and Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo, along with CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, American Samoa Delegate Eni Faleomavaega U.S. Virgin Islands Delegate Donna Christensen, and Guam Delegate Madeleine Bordallo.

Senior-level representatives from over 20 federal agencies also attended the plenary session. Babauta was joined by White House Associate Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Nicholas Rathod, who sat in for Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Cecilia Muñoz.

The gathering aims to discuss issues of importance to American Samoa, the CNMI, Guam, and the U.S Virgin Islands.

In his opening remarks, Babauta thanked the governors and members of Congress for attending and expressed the Obama administration's commitment to ensuring the interagency collaboration is a fruitful and positive endeavor for the islands.

Babauta presented grants to each of the governors at the start of the meeting.

Guam got two grants worth 271,727 to fund the University of Guam's on the job training initiative and the maintenance of renewable energy equipment and to fund the Government of Guam's 2nd Annual Forensic Science Symposium.

American Samoa got five grants totaling $188, 300, mostly for training purposes, while the U.S. Virgin Islands got three grants worth $385,033.

In addition, Guam Gov. Calvo accepted the return of 450 acres of former U.S. Navy property declared excess in 1996 with the passage of the Guam Excess Lands Act.

At the meeting, Bordallo reiterated her position for the Department of Homeland Security to extend parole authority for Chinese and Russian tourists to enter Guam during the IGIA meeting.

She also expressed a desire to have DHS provide a more concrete timeline for the implementation of a final rule that is consistent with congressional intent.

She also expressed her concern that a trend of awarding federal contracts to off-island firms may inhibit the civilian community from fully realizing the benefits of the buildup.

The congresswoman asked that the Small Business Administration consider hiring additional staff to meet increased demands for its services and that more studies be conducted to identify feasible renewable energy alternatives for Guam. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

WSR 3rd graders first recipient of Rotary's free dictionaries

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Third-grade student old Pernalyn Camacho used to borrow the dictionary in her classroom or at the library. Thanks to the Rotary Club of Saipan, Camacho now has her own brand new dictionary.

"I have my own dictionary now so I don't need to borrow anymore. I can learn new words. Thank you for giving us dictionaries," said the nine-year old Camacho.

Eight-year old Ethan Salavaria disclosed that he will use the free dictionary, the first one he has ever owned, for his school work. "It's so awesome!" he exclaimed.

Camacho and Salavaria are among the 119 third graders at the William S. Reyes Elementary School in Chalan Kanoa who became the first batch of recipients of free dictionaries through the Rotary's dictionary project.

The project involves the distribution of over 1,000 dictionaries to third grade students of public schools on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Delta Air Lines paid for the dictionaries.

Rotarians Victoria Concepcion, Amie Javier, and Ning Reyes distributed the dictionaries to the third grade students yesterday morning.

What started out as a small project turned out to be an amazing endeavor, according to Concepcion.

"It's amazing now that we know they have something to use in school. For me, it's a big fulfillment for the Rotary Club to be a part of these kids' learning," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Concepcion said they will distribute the dictionaries until next week.

When asked if Rotarians will personally deliver the dictionaries to third graders on Rota and Tinian, Concepcion said, "We'll find a way to bring it to them."

In an interview, school principal Naomi Nishimura expressed her excitement for the project as well as her appreciation to the Rotary Club and Delta Air Lines.

"We're really happy with this gesture because these kids now have their own dictionaries. For the Rotary to focus in education is really great. We're very grateful for this," she said.

Nishimura emphasized the importance of the project since not all of the students in the five third grade classes have access to a dictionary except in school.

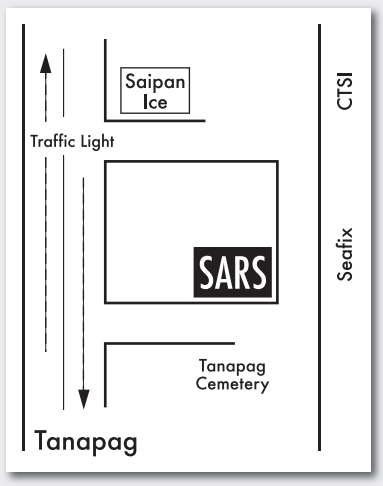
"Now they're equipped even at home and this will enable them to do their school tasks. It also corresponds to part of our mission, which is to build and improve literacy among students so this project certainly help our school's efforts," she added.

NOTICE

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT
"SUCCESS AUTO REPAIR SHOP"
(SARS) – NACC SHOP HAS MOVED
TO LOWER BASE (FORMERLY
KIM'S AUTO SHOP)

NEW TELEPHONE NOS.
322-1558, 322-1988 & 483-1548
FAX NO. 322-1548

THANK YOU
THE MANAGEMENT



NMC plays ball when it comes to a tobacco free campus!

Thank you NMC, I love my Tobacco Free Campus.

This message was brought to you by
NMC CREES NCD Prevention and Control Program

Press Release

Energy Star® "BOGO" Promotion on CFL's and Elastomeric Roof Coating at YCO True Value and Do-It-Best Hardware Stores

The Department of Public Works thru the Energy Division in coordination with both YCO True Value Hardware in Garapan and YCO Do-It-Best Hardware in Chalan Kiya will be promoting "BOGO" for compact fluorescent light (CFL) and Elastomeric Roof Coating on Friday, March 04, 2011 from 9:00am to 3:30pm. This promotion is open to residential home owners only.

The BOGO is buy one (1) Energy Star® Compact Fluorescent Lightbulb (CFL) and get one free with a limit of five (5) CFL purchases per family. In addition, the Energy Star® Elastomeric Roof Coating BOGO is buy one (1) Primer Kool Seal and get one (1) Elastomeric Roof Coating Free with a limit of 2 purchases per family. Items are limited so it will be based on first come, first served basis.

Energy Director Thelma Inos encourages everyone in making your home more energy efficient with ENERGY STAR ® products that can help to reduce high energy bills, improve comfort and help to protect the environment, "Together we can all make a difference."

For questions or information regarding this promotion you may contact the Energy Division at telephone nos. 664-4480/1.

This project funding is made possible by grants from the US Department of Energy, State Energy Program thru the American Recovery Reinvestment Act of 2009.

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

FAA approves $59M worth of projects for NMI airports

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Federal Aviation Administration has approved an estimated $59 million worth of projects for CNMI airports this fiscal year, according to Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Edward Deleon Guerrero.

The amount will cover procurement of airport equipment, improvement and repairs, and rehabilitation and expansion work at the three islands' airports.

"FAA approved the projects and are now awaiting federal authorization. We're hoping the FAA authorization will go through as usual so we can get additional nine years of continued funding assistance," Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

Fiscal year 2011 started in October last year.

Despite having no final word yet about FAA funding authorization, Deleon Guerrero said some of these projects have already started, majority of which involve procurement of items.

CPA is an autonomous agency that operates using its own revenues and resources. FAA, however, shoulders the expenses for various airport projects on Saipan, Rota, and Tinian.

Among these projects are the airport master plan for the three islands and the procurement of four additional vehicles for the CPA's ARFF department.

Deleon Guerrero said the airport master plan will highlight ongoing projects and anticipated future undertakings, along with the updated airport layout plans in compliance with FAA standards.

For the Tinian airport, CPA is proposing the relocation of its ARFF building and access road.

CPA has also requested funding to buy a sweeper for the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport to replace the one it currently has, which no longer works.

For the Rota airport, FAA will be asked to finance the perimeter fencing replacement.

Last fiscal year, CPA received a total of $15.5 million funds from FAA's airport improvement program. Of the amount, the Saipan airport got $11.654 million, while Rota got $3.791 million and Tinian, $71,690.

Among the projects covered in fiscal year 2010 were the runway rehabilitation project, generator procurement and installation, terminal building improvements, and taxiway rehabilitation.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday greetings go out to Ivy Manalo and Neri Vasquez! Wishing you both the best of health, happiness, more blessings, and more birthdays to come! Lots of love from Maricar and Ate Lydia.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

'Be an advocate vs domestic violence and sexual assault'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The executive director of the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence is urging the community to promote awareness of the issue and "be an advocate" in the CNMI.

"Every single member of this community, no matter what they do, every single one of us can help somebody else. If we educate ourselves about the issue and we know the signs of domestic violence, we know about sexual assault, we can help somebody," said Maisie B. Tenorio.

According to Tenorio, community members themselves are the ones who can create a violence-free environment.

"If we're all advocates for victims and survivors, then our community will have an environment where violence is not tolerated," she said.

Tenorio highlighted the significance of advocacy on Tuesday as the Northern Marianas Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence and the Criminal Justice Planning Agency convened providers and other stakeholders on the issue in a conference dubbed "One Journey, One Voice for Victims and Survivors Throughout the CNMI."

About 200 individuals attended the conference at the Royal Taga Hall Room of the Saipan World Resort on Feb. 28 and March 1.

The two-day conference featured presentations from various key speakers, breakout sessions or discussions as well as trainings for service providers.

In an interview, Tenorio disclosed that the conference is part of the two organization's efforts to create a plan addressing the issue of domestic violence and sexual assault in the CNMI.

"In order to create something that truly meets the needs of our community, we wanted to speak with our community first and get their thoughts," she said.

According to Tenorio, they have begun small-level discussions throughout the three islands but they "wanted to do something on a larger scale this time."

With the CNMI community being so diverse, Tenorio maintained that they want to address the issue of domestic violence and sexual assault across all sectors, with due consideration given to Tinian and Rota.

"This [domestic violence and sexual assault] is a CNMI-wide issue and we have tackled this from a CNMI-wide perspective. …It's so easy to forget that Tinian and Rota struggle twice as hard as we do, 10 times as hard even, given their geographic isolation and their lack of access to services and resources," she said.

Tenorio said directing funds to the two islands is not going to address the issue. "We need to actually be there and help and make our presence known just because they need us. They need people and they need to know that they are a part of this community, just like everybody else."

Aside from providers, Tenorio said representatives from various non-profit organizations and ethnic groups were also invited. "We're trying to get a sampling of our community. We have a mix of people who know a lot about the issues and people who don't. And we're getting really good feedback."

Tenorio said more people who have been silent in the past about domestic violence and sexual assault are now becoming more active in discussing the issue.

"To see our community standing up and saying we're ready to make a change, it's about time. And we're here to help the community. We need to do it together," she urged, adding that the CNMI is ready to make the change.

Tenorio disclosed that the second phase of the conference involves a retreat planning session on Rota today and Friday for service providers.

"We're going to take everything we learned in these first few days and use it to develop goals, identify priorities and look at the gaps. Hopefully in the next three to six months, we'll have something concrete that we can share with the public," she said.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SSHS to issue mid-progress reports today

To all parents and legal guardians of Saipan Southern High School students: Term 3 mid-progress report distribution is scheduled to be picked up today, March 3, 2011, from 3pm to 6pm. Teachers will be available in their classrooms for parents and legal guardians visit. All students will be released at 1pm. ***(PR)***

Attention former 2010 Census employees

All former 2010 Census employees residing on Saipan are advised to pick up their W-2 forms at the Department of Commerce, Central Statistics Division on Capital Hill. W-2 forms for Rota and Tinian can be picked up at Commerce offices beginning next week. Bring a valid picture ID (i.e., driver's license, passport, municipal ID). If you need direction or have any question, call 664-3045/3077. ***(PR)***

Early dismissal at Kagman High today

Kagman High School will release its progress reports for the third quarter today, March 3, 2011, from 4:30pm to 6pm. Students will be released at 12pm. For more information, call the KHS office at 237-3840. ***(PR)***

Library Friends' meeting on Saturday

The Library Friends will have a meeting this Saturday, March 5, 2011, at 11am. There have been quite a few book donations coming in and many patrons are asking for another book sale. Input on any other activities that you think the organization should sponsor is encouraged. Please bring your enthusiasm and ideas. ***(PR)***

NMC campuses closed tomorrow for workshop

All NMC employees will be participating in an accreditation workshop from 12:30pm to 4:30pm on Friday, March 4, 2011. All classes scheduled between 12:30pm and 5pm on this day have been canceled (except for classes that only meet once a week on Fridays). All NMC offices will also be closed during that time. The college apologizes for any inconvenience caused. ***(NMC)***

GES to host parent summit Saturday

This Saturday, March 5, 2011, Garapan Elementary School will be hosting a parent summit. All parents of GES students are encouraged to participate. The summit will consist of five workshops: Frequently Asked Questions from previous parent summits, Screamfree Parenting, Megaskills for parents, Standard and Benchmark Report Cards, T Goals, and GES Accreditation. Sign-in starts at 7:30am, the workshops begin at 8am, and will go until 12pm. Each workshop will last approximately 40 minutes. Parents who complete the summit will receive a certificate. There will also be food available for participants. ***(PR)***

DEQ brigade sets Saturday cleanup

The Division of Environmental Quality's monthly cleanup brigade will be picking up trash at Pau Pau Beach in San Roque on Saturday, March 5, 2011. If you would like to volunteer, meet the DEQ representative on Saturday at 8am in the parking lot. Volunteers will split into groups and clean east and west until 10am, break for drinks, and then continue, if needed.

This month, outstanding brigade volunteers who participated in at least 10 monthly cleanups will get a brigade cap and those who took part in at least three cleanups will get a green brigade T-shirt. For more information about volunteering, contact the DEQ office at 664-8500/1. ***(DEQ)***

Oleai school sets PTSA meeting

The PTSA officers of Oleai Elementary School would like to inform parents and guardians of OES that there will be a PTSA meeting on Tuesday, March 8, 2011, at 6pm in the school cafeteria. Everyone is encouraged to attend. ***(PR)***

Veteran outreach on Rota, Saipan

This is to let all veterans, and all concern that on April 4-7, 2011, Tina San Augustine, the federal Department of Veterans Affairs legal administrative specialist from Guam, and Ruth Coleman, executive officer of the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs, will be on Rota and Saipan for an outreach on veterans' federal benefits. They will be also entertaining questions and assisting with claims.

- Rota: April 4-5, 2011, 8:30am-4:30pm at the Rota WIA office
- Saipan: April 6-7, 2011, 8:30am-4:30pm at the Office of the Military/Veterans Affairs on Capitol Hill, building 1364

To make an appointment or for further information, call Coleman or Bernie Dela Cruz at the Office of Military/Veterans Affairs at 664-2650. ***(PR)***

BRUCE L. MAILMAN
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PMB 238, Box 10,000
Saipan, MP 96950-8900
Telephone: 233-0081
Facsimile: 233-0090

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
LPP MORTGAGE, LTD.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

LPP MORTGAGE, LTD., Plaintiff, -v- JOSEPH A. AGULTO, Defendant. — **CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0022**

NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court on January 6, 2011, in this matter, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of defendant Joseph A. Agulto in and to the following real property located at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands:

LOT NO. 011 G 1078, KAGMAN III, consisting of approximately 835 square meters; and which is also described as:

LOT NO. 011 G 1078, containing an area of 835 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 011 G 19, the original of which was recorded on December 9, 1993 as file no. 93-4287 at the office of the Commonwealth Recorder, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on March 14, 2011, at the hour of 3:45 p.m., at the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale.

a. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

b. Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

c. Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

d. Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale.

a. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the plaintiff, in care of Mailman & Kara, LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

b. Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

c. Court Approval. Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is sought, and if and when it is granted.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 21st day of January, 2011:

RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctioneer

BRUCE L. MAILMAN
CNMI BAR ASSN #F0153
MAILMAN & KARA, LLC
PMB 238, Box 10,000
Saipan, MP 96950-8900
Telephone: 233-0081
Facsimile: 233-0090

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF
LPP MORTGAGE, LTD.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

LPP MORTGAGE, LTD., Plaintiff, -v- MARIANO TEDIL ALDAN, aka MARINO TEDIL ALDAN, Defendant — **CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0350**

FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court on December 13, 2010, in this matter, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth herein below, all of the right, title, and interest of defendant Mariano Tedil Aldan aka Marino Tedil Aldan in and to the following real property located at Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands:

LOT 010 K 121, containing an area of 991 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 010 K 01 dated August 19, 1987, Commonwealth Recorder's File No. 87-2911 dated August 19, 1987.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on March 14, 2011, at the hour of 4:00 p.m., at the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Inspection of Property. It is the responsibility of each bidder to inspect the property prior to the sale. Failure to inspect the property or any portion thereof will not constitute ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any buyer.

Warranties and Covenants. All property listed for sale in this Notice will be sold in its current condition, and at its current location. The sale will be held without any warranties or covenants whatsoever, whether express or implied, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability, and/or fitness for any purpose whatsoever, all of which warranties and covenants are hereby expressly disclaimed. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff may give any warranty or covenant, express or implied, with respect to the property listed for sale in this Notice. Neither the undersigned nor the plaintiff shall be liable for the quality of the property listed for sale in this Notice, or for any fault or defect in the description thereof. Buyers shall not be entitled to rescission, damages, or any other remedy on account thereof.

Conduct of Sale.

a. Reserve. The auction sale may be held with reserve. The reserve price on any property offered for sale may or may not be disclosed to bidders, in the sole discretion of the undersigned.

b. Rights and duties of auctioneer. Consistent with the laws, customs, and usages of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales, the undersigned shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale: (1) to withdraw the property listed for sale in this Notice before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted; (2) to adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and (3) to reject, on behalf of the seller, any or all bids, for any reason.

c. Bids. Bids may be submitted in advance for any or all of the property listed in this Notice. The highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Advance bids may be submitted only in writing, signed by the bidder, and delivered to the law offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC, 2nd Floor, Tan Marikita Bldg., Beach Road at Cpl. Derence Jack Street, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The bidder assumes all risk of non-delivery, late delivery, or mis-delivery of bids. Any person, including the plaintiff, may bid in person at the auction sale, whether or not such person has submitted an advance bid.

d. Disputes. The undersigned may resubmit any property listed in this Notice if a dispute arises as to any bid thereon.

Enforcement of Auction Sale.

a. Deposit. Every successful bidder shall pay to the undersigned a deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price immediately after the sale is consummated. Payment shall be in cash or by certified check. The balance must be paid to the plaintiff, in care of Mailman & Kara, LLC, within three (3) days from the date of sale, in cash or by certified check. If the balance is not so paid, plaintiff will retain the deposit as liquidated damages, and will again offer the property for sale.

b. Memorandum of Sale. If requested by the undersigned, every successful bidder must sign a Memorandum of Sale, immediately after the sale of any property is struck off at auction.

c. Court Approval. Every sale may be subject to approval by the Court. The auctioneer makes no warranties or promises with respect to court approval of the sale, including but not limited to the time in which such approval may be granted. No delay in the granting of court approval shall be ground for any claim, adjustment, or rescission by any successful bidder. The successful bidder will be promptly notified if and when court approval is sought, and if and when it is granted.

Change of Terms and Conditions. The undersigned and the plaintiff reserve the right to change any of the terms hereof by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on all bidders by constructive notice.

DATED, this 21st day of February, 2011:

RONNIE D. HODGES, Auctioneer

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB11-OVR-056

SUBMISSION / OPENING DATE: MARCH 16, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PURCHASE OF SEVEN (7) DESKTOP COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR THE OFFICE OF VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT APPLICABLE BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MARGARITA R. OLOPAI-TAITANO
DIRECTOR OF OVR

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION FOR BID
IFB11-CHC-049 (1-9)

SUBMISSION DATE: MARCH 28, 2011 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"PROCUREMENT OF CNMI SNS-RSS DISASTER SUPPORT EQUIPMENTS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATION MAY BE PICKED-UP AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY, LOWER BASE DR., SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS IFB SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO WARREN F. VILLAGOMEZ, BIO TERRORISM PROGRAM MANAGER BY FAX TO (670) 236-8769 OR E-MAIL TO ***Warrenvillagomez@gmail.com*** NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS, **MARCH 15, 2011.**

THIS IS FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE ITS USE IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Mar. 3, 1999

Governor OKs privatized slaughterhouse operations

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio has allowed the transfer of management of the CNMI slaughterhouse to a Chinese company in a bid to ensure its smooth operation and cut down operating expenses. The agreement signed recently by the governor paves the way for the takeover of Sei Shin Farms which will pay the government a $12,000 lease for a year. "We believe that it is in the best interest of the government to get out of business," said Dr. Jack A. Tenorio, secretary of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. With a $160,000 budget in fiscal year 1998, the slaughterhouse is only making some $6,000 to $7,000 a year .

NMC students continue EAP debate

Students of the Northern Marianas College have agreed to personally receive their checks for the local educational assistance grant but are opposing the proposal on the full-time credit requirement. In a forum held yesterday at NMC's Student Center, some 30 recipients discussed these issues with Special Adviser for Education Dan Nielsen. According to Shirley Santos, president of the Associated Students of NMC, close to 50 students returned the survey-questionnaire conducted last week.

Mar. 3, 2000

Prospects bright for regional firefighting center on Saipan

The Commonwealth's strong and extensive program for preparedness against airport accidents is beginning to reap praises from no less than the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) which lauded the local government's efforts. Commonwealth Ports Authority Executive Director Carlos H. Salas and aircraft rescue fighting chief Stanley Torres received recognition from the FAA and the State of Hawaii Airports Division during the Pacific Aviation Directors Workshop in Palau. FAA specially recognized the efforts of Mr. Salas and Mr. Torres in beefing up the aviation body's Western Pacific aircraft rescue and fire-fighting program.

Resolution chiding CNMI critics sparks debate in House

A resolution attacking two chief opponents of the CNMI in the U.S. Congress provoked debate yesterday during a session of the House of Representatives over whether its language is too strong so as to draw more criticisms from the mainland. Rep. Diego T. Benavente led those who objected to House Resolution 12-18, which urged Rep. George Miller (D-California) and Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-Hawaii) to clean up their backyards first before accusing the island government of human rights abuses and slavery. The measure, offered by Federal and Foreign Relations Committee Chair Rep. Norman S. Palacios, could hurt the Commonwealth more because of its "confrontational" tone, according to Benavente.

Mar. 3, 2003

Senate to act on pending bills

The Senate is set to act on at least 40 bills in a session scheduled for Tuesday to put a closure to the string of pending legislation that have been sitting in Senate committees for many months, Floor Leader Joaquin G. Adriano said yesterday. Adriano said the Senate had entertained some 60 House and Senate bills in what seemed like marathon committee meetings on Tinian this week. "The target is to get the bills out on the floor. Some of these bills have been in the committee for as long as ten months," said the Floor Leader. Some of the bills that are up for action deal on environmental conservation, infrastructure improvement projects and other local policies, said Adriano.

Bank liabilities drop 1.6 percent

Bank liabilities dropped 1.6 percent by end-December 2002 to $549.3 million from the end-September 2002's figure of $558.3 million, according to a report compiled by the CNMI Department of Commerce's Banking Division. Despite this, assets still paled in comparison to liabilities, reaching only $253.1 million in the October-December 2002 period, which indicated slowdown in overall revenue-generating activities of banks as a result of the shrinking local market for loans. Loans, which are considered assets because these generate revenue for banking institutions, dropped 2.5 percent in the fourth quarter of last year from the third quarter's $260 million. Bank loans registered fluctuating figures, starting with $283 million in the firs quarter of last year; it went down by 6 percent to $266.8 million in the April-June 2002 period, then slightly picked up to $260 million the following quarter.

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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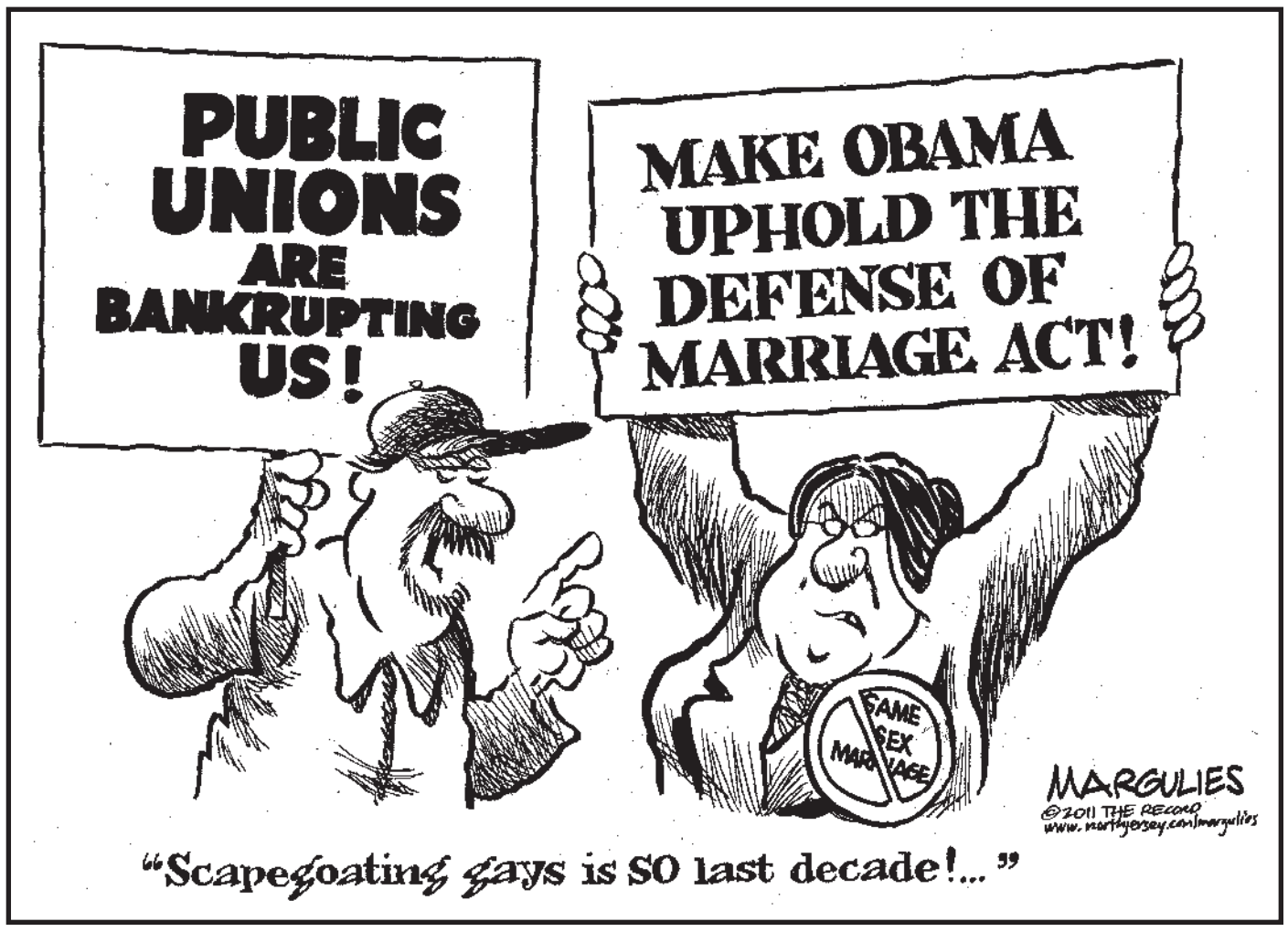

EDITORIAL

Libya uprising requires low-key US response

(c) 2011, The Dallas Morning News

The Obama administration predictably is taking heat from conservatives about its restrained response to the crisis in Libya. There are even calls for a U.S. military response to hasten dictator Muammar Gadhafi's departure. While well meaning, these critics seek short-term action that ignores substantial longer-term consequences.

The administration's initial restraint was appropriately designed to protect American lives. Until hundreds of Americans could be evacuated, the administration reasoned that tough talk against Gadhafi could put lives in danger. We need only recall Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein's kidnapping of several hundred Westerners in Kuwait in 1990 to understand the ease with which unscrupulous megalomaniacs will put innocent lives on the line to press political objectives. Gadhafi is certainly no exception.

Given the region's volatility and precarious reputation America has among Arabs, comments like those from Republican Sen. John McCain of Arizona strike us as short sighted. Urging Obama to "get tough," McCain stopped short of calling for deployment of ground troops but endorsed establishing a no-fly zone over Libya to prevent pro-Gadhafi military from using aircraft to fire on protesters.

No-fly zones are useless unless enforced militarily. McCain should need no reminding, after the 1993 "Black Hawk down" incident in Mogadishu, that American military intervention always carries a substantial risk of escalating out of control.

Besides, in none of the Arab uprisings so far has there been a noticeable cry on the streets for American assistance. The U.S. must not disregard the strong sense of pride among protesters that this is their revolution. To remain authentic, victory must come from the street. Western intervention is just as unwelcome as meddling by, say, al-Qaida.

America's past experience should play an important role as Washington gauges how to respond to the uprisings. Nothing on this scale has confronted the region, which means no one can predict how U.S. actions could impact future events.

America's experience in Iraq and Afghanistan has shown repeatedly that heavy-handed, military-dominant responses to chaotic situations tend to breed only resentment and provide recruitment fodder for anti-West insurgencies.

The U.S. would be best served by remaining on alert and ready to assist—but with heavy emphasis on providing help only when requested. The State Department should gear up with teams of advisers similar to the provincial reconstruction teams that have fanned out across Iraq and Afghanistan to assist in walking local leaders through the intricacies of democratic governance.

A policy of restraint doesn't always play well with the American news cycle. But Arab protesters are proudly blazing this path for themselves, and Washington's best response may well be simply to get out of their way.

Maynilad's Great Wall of China

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

A colleague did us a psychological favor by suggesting that we had priced ourselves out of the PSS/NMC markets since they can hire two entry level pedagogues for what they would have to pay me were I to return to my old haunt. Not quite accurate but it is a good story to salve the bruised ego.

I promised Shenyang Aerospace University, after guest lecturing in November, to return this semester if they could get me a work visa. They could not locate an expert on "macroeconomics" and I was foolish enough to volunteer. I had been boning up on the science of voodoo economics ever since!

Anyway, the closest PRC consulate is in LA so I decided to fly down to Manila to pick up a work visa, as doing so in either Incheon or Tokyo would have bankrupted the savings account.

While doing some paperwork with our local USCIS, one of their officers explained to me that in the locker mail service the Immigration Bureau runs in Chicago, personnel are trained to wear blinders, and any deviation on established procedure immediately triggers the return of one's submitted papers. Sure enough, the application of a person we were assisting was returned so we can rectify a minor irregularity we tried to rectify by phone.

I thought this was just a peculiarity of our U.S. immigration, particularly in dealing with Filipinos, since the State receives 400,000 applicants annually for 14,000 allowed slots; an immigration lawyer suggested that staff are trained to "delay, delay, delay."

Going through three days of China's Manila consulate makes me think that there must be a commonality in the training of immigration personnel across the world. The Makati PRC visa office at the World Centre has 160 seats; a standing-room-only waiting room for at least 900 tickets. At 45 minutes before the windows opened, I got ticket No. 863.

Six hours later, I made it to the window. I expected the three officers to be tired wading through all kinds of legitimate and not-so-legitimate papers from applicants, particularly tourists planning on seeking employment in resurgent China. My #2 officer was not tired nor cranky, just solidly poker-faced and thoroughly officious.

"Sir, you need to get a medical," she made the opening salvo.

"I already reside in China. I just need a work visa."

"No sir, you are a temporary resident with a multiple entry tourist visa good for a year."

"OK. If I have any disease, I already gave it to the neighborhood." I thought I was going to be funny. The lady Filipino officer was not amused.

"We cannot process your application without a medical check-up," she said, not losing her straight face.

"If I apply elsewhere, like Hong Kong, is the medical required?"

"I do not know, sir, but if you want us to process your papers, you need a medical."

That was that. Luckily, a hole-on-the-wall on UN Ave. ran medical check-ups with incredible efficiency. It was open until 8pm. In two hours, I was x-rayed, blood-poop-urine-tested, ECG'd, poked, measured and assessed by an MD and a nurse, and psycho-screened. TG for Manila's vaunted medical diploma mills! And at a fifth of the cost of getting comparable tests on Saipan, we did not complain. Oh, I also needed new photos because the ones I had were not acceptable.

We made it back to the Consulate the following day a good 15 minutes before they started handing out tickets. I still only got No. 66 but they started from the previous day's No. 940, which made my turn 126th call later. That took two hours. The lady told me to run out and duplicate my papers; I followed orders without question. Happily, I did not need to line up again when I returned after lunch.

I received a pink slip without a date for pick-up. It was Friday. My airline booking was the next Friday; the Internet said processing was four working days. I hung on to my $40 that could expedite processing to two days.

"Shall I come back Thursday?"

"We will call you."

"To pick up my visa?"

"To let you know when to come in to find out if you qualify to get a visa!"

Wow. Five days of acid in the stomach on the wait; call came Wednesday. Thursday morning, we were first at the visa office, or so we thought. The guard said we were early but pointed to the line outside on the front steps. I came in from the back. Folks had already lined up and it was still a good two hours before the windows opened.

I was No. 63 on the pick-up line. When my turn came, the cashier collected my $140 fee (ouch!), which is a fourth the cost were I using my Pea Eye passport but reciprocity is the guideline and Uncle Sam charges the same amount to Zhong Guo applicants. After paying (cash only) I proceeded to another line without numbers (payment receipt had the number) so I had to note the person ahead of me to know when to present myself at the window. At least, by then, I knew I got the visa! I got out shortly before lunch, but not until after another delay when the releasing officer went back inside to clarify a note on my visa. Tired but relieved, I told the taxi driver on the way back to Parañaque to take the toll highway and breeze me home.

Will save enough so that the next time, we'll head for LA; better yet, find an excuse to visit an old friend in Seoul!

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Death before dishonor

"Rather fail with honor than succeed by fraud."

—Sphocies

Certain incidents have caused me to reflect on the concept of honor and how important it is as an individual and to society as a whole. Honor can be defined as that which rightfully attracts esteem, respect, or reverence. It is synonymous with personal integrity, dignity, and a good reputation.

Honor was once held in such high regard that a person would rather die than lose his honor or bring disgrace on himself, his family, or country. In ancient Rome, the phrase "death before dishonor" was used as a battle cry. It was also uttered immediately before a Roman centurion would fall on his own sword to avoid humiliation and death at the hands of his enemies. The phrase can also be found in Japan and China. The Chinese phrase roughly translates as "you can die, but you cannot allow dishonor upon yourself."

Since the feudal medieval period in Japan, the code of the Bushido, or "the way of the warrior," required adherence to a unique Japanese code of conduct that emphasized virtues such as honor, loyalty, obedience, duty, and self-sacrifice of a samurai. Bushido philosophy also enforces conduct of calmness, fairness, justice, and propriety. All of these character traits, along with the intricate details of conduct, appearance, and grooming, could be seen as one's constant preparation for death in an honorable manner. The ultimate aim of a warrior was to die with one's honor intact by living according to Bushido. Throughout the Pacific, including Saipan, there are numerous stories of Japanese soldiers who carried this fighting spirit by refusing to surrender for months, or even years after World War II ended.

"Death before dishonor" has also been popularized by U.S. military units and individuals who tattoo the phrase on their body—which has come to mean that an individual would rather die than go against anything they strongly believe, or bring shame upon oneself, friends, family, or country.

Honor is something that seems to have gone out of vogue with many of the rising generation. Rather than being selfless or standing up for one's beliefs with conviction, some youth seem to "go with the flow" and often show a lack of respect and reverence for individuals or ideals that were once held in high regard. Honor and honesty appears to be an option that can quickly be abandoned for expediency or to avoid punishment.

Honor and being honorable is the sign of a person with high character, virtue, and moral worth. We honor those who have demonstrated their honor to their country or a great cause. Academic institutions recognize students with honors and we show respect to judges by calling them "your honor." Individuals with a sense of honor have integrity, are trustworthy, and demonstrate respect for others and their beliefs.

According to sacred writings, the source of God's power is derived from his honor. Everything in the universe honor's His word and obeys His command because He is the personification of honor, and cannot lie. I should say that everything obeys and honors the word of God, except humans who have been given their agency to be disobedient and dishonorable. Many denominations believe that the highest rewards are bestowed upon those who return with honor by honoring God and living with honor among their fellow sojourners on earth.

By RIK VILLEGAS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Rik is a writer, life-long learner, and business instructor at Northern Marianas College. He can be contacted at RikVillegas@gmail.com, and you can comment on this article at http://rikv.blogspot.com.

Those who honor their word are held in high regard and are given greater responsibility and opportunities. By honoring others we become more honorable. There should be a renaissance of Bushido to bring back the chivalry that was once prevalent in Eastern and Western culture. Could you imagine what would happen if families taught their children to both honor and become honorable? Imagine how our situation would be so much different if our leaders acted honorably and conducted all of their affairs with the utmost honor?

Death before dishonor may seem extreme, but it emphasizes the degree to which some will go to maintain their honor. It is important to live each day in honor and to maintain an honorable life—one that will bring high esteem and respect for your actions.

"He has honor if he holds himself to an ideal of conduct though it is inconvenient, unprofitable, or dangerous to do so."

—Walther Lippmann

Helping the Arabs help themselves

A basic tenet of the U.S. war against terrorism under both George W. Bush and Barack Obama has been the need to "drain the swamp"—to eliminate the conditions that drive young Muslims toward extremism. Now, in much of the Arab world, the inhabitants of the swamp have pitched in courageously to drain it themselves. Are we ready to help?

The Obama administration says yes, but in some cases, it's been slow to take action. And most members of Congress say yes too, but they're caught up in a frenzy of budget cutting that's likely to reduce the money available for the job.

The first step, of course, is helping democratic revolutions succeed. After some initial hesitation, President Obama pronounced himself fully on the side of the demonstrators in Tunis, Cairo and Tripoli. Critics have complained that the administration could have done more; administration officials promise that, once the dust settles, we'll learn that they did more than was publicly known. For example, one official suggested to me, the administration and allied governments have tried through back channels to persuade Libya's air force to ignore orders to fire on demonstrators.

But once a dictator has been toppled, there's much more work to be done. In countries such as Tunisia and Egypt, there are constitutions to write or revise, elections to be organized and monitored, voters to be registered.

In past years, some grass-roots democratic groups in the Arab world may have hesitated to accept American aid because they, or their potential voters, saw the United States as an enemy, not a friend.

"I don't think there's a problem now," said Kenneth Wollack, president of the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. "There's great pride in all of these places that these protest movements were indigenous."

Luckily, the United States already has programs available to provide the kind of advice and training that Arab democrats may want—a legacy, in part, of the George W. Bush administration, but one the Obama administration has continued.

The State Department and the U.S. Agency for International Development, the foreign aid agency, are already designing a proposal for a package of "transition assistance" to newly democratic countries in the area. But that's likely to be a slow process. Tunisia, for example, overthrew its dictatorship more than a month ago, but it has yet to receive any new help from USAID.

More promising vehicles, in the short term, are the nimbler nongovernment organizations like Wollack's, which can launch small projects quickly. His National Democratic Institute, sponsored by the Democratic Party and funded by a combination of U.S. government and private donations, has sent an expert to Yemen to serve as an unofficial conduit between the government and opposition leaders. The International Republican Institute, the GOP counterpart, has already launched a public opinion poll in Egypt to show budding politicians what their potential voters think.

Once elections are held and new governments installed, there will still be work to do to make sure the fledgling democracies succeed. One crucial aspect will be economic aid to help improve the lives of millions of people who live in poverty even as their elites—and neighboring countries such as Saudi Arabia—live in opulence.

Why is this important? Democracies that fail to deliver material progress don't always stay democratic. And that's where Congress comes in. The spending bill for the rest of this year that the Republican-led House passed last week cuts foreign economic aid by about 17 percent worldwide; it would cut the National Endowment for Democracy, the organization that funds those nimble democracy institutes, by 6 percent. And House Republicans have made it clear that they plan further cuts next year; some firebrands have even proposed eliminating foreign aid entirely, or eliminating it for every country except Israel.

By DOYLE MCMANUS
Los Angeles Times

Doyle McManus is a columnist for The Los Angeles Times. *Readers may send him e-mail at doyle.mcmanus@latimes.com.*

In the short run, the Senate—and common sense—is likely to save U.S. democracy promotion from being gutted. "We're the flavor of the month," an executive at one of the institutes (not Wollack's) told me wryly. "Everybody's offering us money." But over the long run, if foreign aid is slashed overall, even the little democracy-promotion agencies will feel the squeeze.

Here's a modest proposal: The administration and Congress should choose a country to turn into a real success story, and make sure it gets all the help it needs.

For years, one of the problems of promoting democracy in the Arab world has been the shortage of positive models for others to follow. It's still a problem today: As unelected kings and presidents look at the tumult around them, do they see any examples of smooth, successful transitions they might be tempted to emulate? Or will they see chaos, and conclude that repression is still the better course?

Among the wealthy monarchies, the administration already appears to have settled on Bahrain, where a reformist crown prince has taken on the challenge of negotiating with the opposition.

Among the other countries, the United States will feel compelled to help Egypt, because it is so big, and Yemen, because a branch of al-Qaida is operating from its mountains. But Egypt and Yemen are desperately poor countries that will take years to turn around.

But there's at least one country that deserves special attention because it holds such promise as a potential model for success: Tunisia. It's relatively small (about 11 million people). It's a middle-income country, with a per capita national income of about $9,500. Its population is relatively educated; one reason for the revolution was that too many college graduates were unemployed. Its revolution was largely peaceful; it suffers from no major ethnic or sectarian conflicts.

The people of Tunisia were the ones who started this wave of democratization. Now we should help them complete it.

Obama and his aides have used the uprisings in the Arab world as a reproach to the authoritarian government of Iran, which has attacked demonstrators in Tehran even as it praised them in Cairo. But the best way to promote democracy in Iran—or Syria or Saudi Arabia—is to help democracy succeed in Egypt, Yemen and Tunisia.

Letter to the Editor

$uggestion for Rota

I once submitted a consulting proposal to the mayor and a senator from Rota to assist them with developing their casino industry, but needless to say nothing ever came of it. But I still feel for the people and considering things on Rota haven't gotten any better, I would like to offer this suggestion.

I recently mentioned the need for Rota to have a ferry service to Guam with the change in the requirements for goods to go directly to Rota, thus avoiding the double shipping cost. It dawned on me that the $77 million in unspent ARRA funds just might be able to assist Rota with the purchase of a ferry. Rota is clearly placing a large portion of its economic future on the casino—a casino that is clearly dependent on tourist arrivals from Guam and not the CNMI. Rota's geographical status as an island located within sight of Guam would really make the ferry service a vital and necessary infrastructure for the casino to be successful, which should fall under the ARRA stimulus bill for funding. At the very least it should be researched because the feds can't say yes until we ask. But even if they say no, we still have "special circumstances" as a strong foundation to rely on for the funds, which has been an acceptable argument since the creation of our government. In other words, now is the time to be invoking our *uniqueness*, as this is not an equality issue. The only question is who will do the work to justify this need and will all the players work together as a political team to get it done for Rota, if it is not too late already.

Just wanted to share this with the people of Rota and wishing all of you the very best with the casino industry, as your success will surely be a success for the entire CNMI.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°

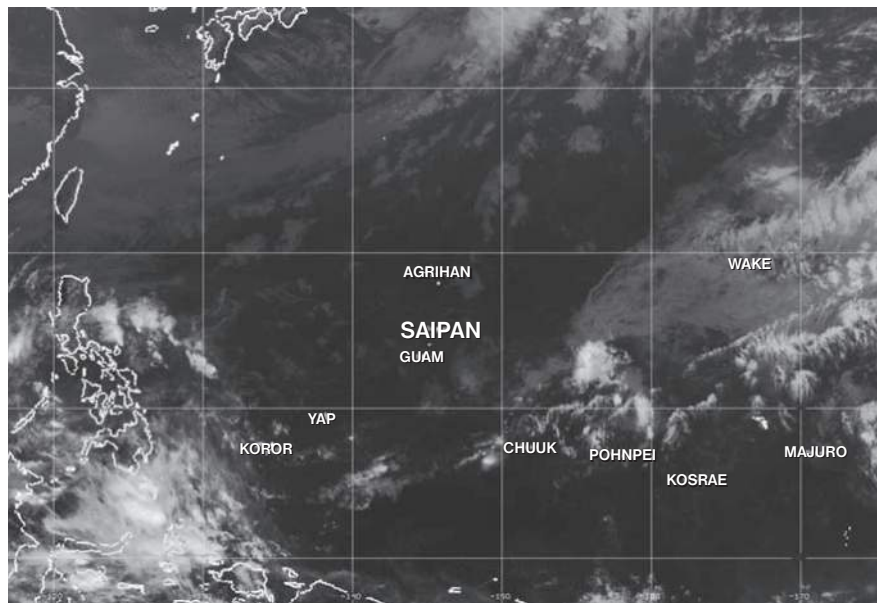
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲84	▼76
Palau	Showers	▲86	▼76
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Showers	▲83	▼78
Pohnpei	Showers	▲85	▼77
Kosrae	Showers	▲88	▼78
Majuro	Rain	▲85	▼78

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼67
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲46	▼25
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲64	▼60
Honolulu	Showers	▲81	▼74
London	Sunny	▲47	▼38
Los Angeles	Showers	▲63	▼48
Manila	Thundershowers	▲82	▼74
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼52
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲77	▼65
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲35	▼27
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲45	▼36
Paris	Sunny	▲48	▼31
Pusan	Sunny	▲46	▼31
Rome	Showers	▲60	▼41
Salem	Showers	▲47	▼37
San Francisco	Showers	▲58	▼47
Seoul	Sunny	▲42	▼24
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	▲48	▼36
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲43	▼33

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak circulation is located near 11N151E. A surface trough extends southwestward from the circulation to 5N142E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with the trough and circulation can be found north of Pohnpei between 8N and 15N from 154E to 160E. A shear line enters the discussion area near 17N180 and continues southwestward to 12N170E to 11N160E. Scattered showers and extensive cloudiness are found along and up to 550 miles north of the shear line. A cold front cuts across the northwest corner of the discussion area from 25N136E southwestward to 21N130E. Scattered showers and clouds are found along and up to 250 miles north of the front.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

1:00 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
7:37 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
1:26 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet
6:42 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:33 AM	6:25 PM
Friday	6:33 AM	6:25 PM
Saturday	6:32 AM	6:25 PM
Sunday	6:32 AM	6:26 PM
Monday	6:31 AM	6:26 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	5:11 AM	5:08 PM
Friday	5:48 AM	5:55 PM
Saturday	6:23 AM	6:41 PM
Sunday	6:58 AM	7:27 PM
Monday	7:34 AM	8:14 PM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	1, 3, ,4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)

OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

CA988	3:15am	6:55am	1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
C09313/933	7:55am	9:25pm	3 via GUM
C09313/893	7:55am	11:00pm	3 via GUM-Palau
C09603/933	3:05pm	9:25pm	5 via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	11:00pm	5 via GUM-Palau
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ606/721	2:10am	12:00pm	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:40am	12:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ604/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily
C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily
DL286	7:45pm	12:20am+1	2, 3, ,4 ,5, 7
DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily

OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN

OZ120	9:50am	2:20am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

CA987	6:40pm	1:55am+1	4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ716/603	12:30am	2:20pm	4, 6 via ICN
DL172/286	8:05am	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7
C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM
OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM-Palau
C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 7 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	4 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM
C0934/9596	11:59pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

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The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

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- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
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- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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26-percent drop in vehicle sales in February

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Vehicle dealers sold 42 new cars, trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles in February, a 26-percent drop from 57 sold during the same period last year as consumers cling to their dollars in such hard times.

The Commonwealth Auto Dealers Association released yesterday its latest sales report, showing a 33-percent drop in sales in the first two months of 2011 or from 125 last year to 84 this year.

Microl Corp. again sold the most vehicles in February with 19 units, followed by Triple "J" Motors with 13, then Joeten Motors with 10

Of the three CADA members, only Triple "J" Motors posted growth of 30 percent, while Microl reported a 21-percent drop in sales, and Joeten Motors, also a 57-percent sales decline.

Of the 42 new vehicles sold last month, 15 were cars, 12 were trucks, 11 were SUVs, and four were vans.

Toyota Tacoma was not only the top selling truck but also the top selling vehicle in February with seven units sold. Other trucks sold were three Nissan Frontiers and two Ford Rangers.

Only four Toyota Siennas were sold among vans in February.

Hyundai Tucson topped the sales chart among SUVs last month, followed by Toyota Highlander with two units sold. CADA sold one unit each of Ford Escape, Honda Element, Mazda CX7, Toyota 4 Runner, and Toyota RAV4.

Among cars, Mazda2 and Mazda3 sold the most with three units each. CADA also sold two units each of Hyundai Accent, Kia Soul, Toyota Corolla and Toyota Yaris, along with one Kia Forte.

CADA sold 27 secondhand vehicles in February, more than the 17 it sold in January.

Ex-owners of Ladera School file $1M suit vs then operator

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The former owners of the defunct Ladera International School of Saipan have filed a $1-million lawsuit against the school's operator for allegedly mismanaging the school and embezzling its funds.

Brothers Yong Nam Park and Yong Sung Park and their parent, Pil Hwan Park, sued Sung Yun Kim for breach of contract and fraud.

Yong Nam Park and defendant Kim used to be married. Kim reportedly resides in South Korea.

Attorney Steven P. Pixley, counsel for the plaintiffs, stated in the complaint that Yong Nam Park and defendant Kim set up the Ladera School with the Park brothers as shareholders.

Since 2005, Pixley said, Kim was primarily responsible for handling financial matters relating to the Ladera School.

"[Kim] grossly mismanaged the Ladera School. She failed to pay corporate taxes, embezzled funds, failed to pay wages to teachers and otherwise caused substantial damage to the Ladera School and to the plaintiffs," Pixley said.

He said Kim was arrested in South Korea on Feb. 16, 2010, on charges of engaging in fraudulent activities relating to her business in the country.

Following her arrest, the plaintiffs took over the operation of Ladera School and learned about Kim's mismanagement of the school.

Pixley said the plaintiffs paid $310,000 of their personal funds to pay for debts and other obligations caused by Kim's misappropriation of corporate funds and mismanagement.

Pixley said that in October 2010, Kim expressed an interest in purchasing the Ladera School from the Park brothers. She allegedly represented to the plaintiffs that she had investors who were interested in purchasing the school.

On Dec. 14, 2010, the parties entered into an assets purchase agreement transferring the school and assets to Kim.

Under the agreement, Kim agreed to pay the plaintiffs the sum of 600 million Korean won in five installments.

Pursuant to the terms of the agreement, Kim paid 50 million Korean won upon its execution. The second installment of 50 million won was due on Jan. 31, 2011.

Pixley said that Kim has failed to make this payment and has failed to pay for certain financial obligations incurred by the school.

Senate may act tomorrow on NMD registry plan

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Senate may act tomorrow on a bill that will establish a Northern Marianas Descent Registry within the Commonwealth Election Commission, some eight months after the House passed it in July.

House Bill 17-57, House Draft 1 seeks to mandate the establishment and control of the registry of NMDs within the commission's office.

The commission started registering NMDs in March 2008 in preparation for a future vote on the land tenure law, but such registry was initiated without any statutory authority and may be discontinued.

The registry is seen as instrumental during a general election as far as determining who is eligible to vote on any proposed constitutional amendment to Article XII, which restricts land ownership to persons of Northern Marianas descent.

House Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan), author of HB 17-57 which has six co-sponsors, said the Northern Marianas Descent Registry will maintain official listings and records of persons of NMDs and others as may be allowed or required by the measure.

Such registry will also produce the Official Northern Marianas Descent Identification Card, the design of which needs the approval of the governor, House speaker, Senate president, and mayors.

The Department of Public Lands may require the NMD ID to ensure that the individual applying for village or agricultural homestead in the CNMI is an NMD.

Once HB 17-57 becomes law, the Commonwealth Election Commission will begin the registration of persons of NMDs in all villages.

A person is considered of Northern Marianas descent if he or she is a U.S. citizen or national and is of at least one-quarter CNMI Chamorro or Carolinian blood. An adopted child is also considered of Northern Marianas descent if he or she was adopted by a person of Northern Marianas descent while under 18 years old.

Saipan Ice settles discrimination suit

Saipan Ice & Water Co. Inc. has settled the age discrimination lawsuit filed in federal court by a former employee who worked for the company for 21 years and was terminated.

Carmelito Espina Espinosa and Saipan Ice, through their respective counsels Dimitri Varmazis and Michael W. Dotts, filed yesterday their settlement agreement in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

Espinosa and Saipan Ice agreed to have the case dismissed, with each party bearing their own attorneys' fees and court costs.

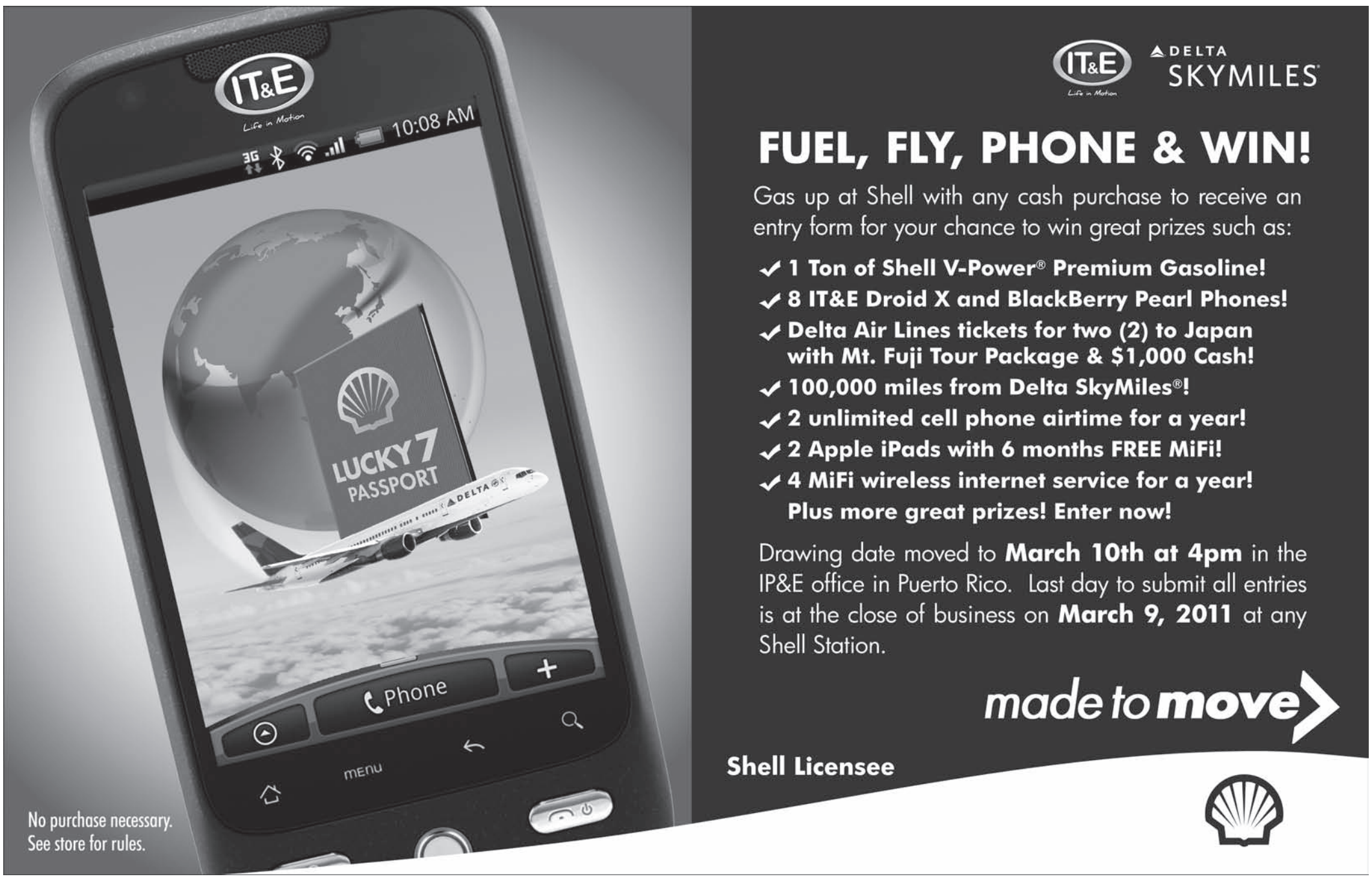
Varmazis and Dotts stated in the agreement that the dismissal of the lawsuit is a compromise on a disputed claim, and that any payment made or consideration given is not to be construed as an admission of liability.

Saipan Ice denies liability and intends merely to avoid litigation.

Espinosa filed the lawsuit in May 2010. He sued Saipan Ice for alleged violation of Age Discrimination in Employment Act.

Espinosa alleged that when he was terminated on May 12, 2009, he was 55 years old. He worked with Saipan Ice from 1988 until his termination.

Saipan Ice, however, explained that Espinosa's job performance was satisfactory and that the decision to release him from employment was due to economic reasons. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***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Gas up at Shell with any cash purchase to receive an entry form for your chance to win great prizes such as:
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✔ 8 IT&E Droid X and BlackBerry Pearl Phones!
✔ Delta Air Lines tickets for two (2) to Japan with Mt. Fuji Tour Package & $1,000 Cash!
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✔ 4 MiFi wireless internet service for a year!
Plus more great prizes! Enter now!
Drawing date moved to March 10th at 4pm in the IP&E office in Puerto Rico. Last day to submit all entries is at the close of business on March 9, 2011 at any Shell Station.
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Saipan community turns out for 3rd JP Walk

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rather than sleep in on a chilly, early Saturday morning, hundreds of family members, close friends, and former colleagues of the late Tan Holdings Corp. executive John "JP" Pangelinan gathered last Feb. 26 for the 3rd Annual "A Walk to Remember."

The annual walk pays tribute to the former *Saipan Tribune* publisher who passed away in 2008 after a long battle with cancer.

Most of the 554 participants arrived before sunup to take part in the walk, which began from the JP Center in Garapan all the way to Susupe Beach Park. Water stations were set up for participants throughout the course, with refreshments, entertainment, and shuttle transportation made available at the end of the walk.

This year, various organizations including the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association, TanHoldings Football Club, Shirley's Football Club, United Knights Badminton Club, and the Northern Mariana Islands Badminton Association took part in the event.

Among those who took part in Saturday's walk included JP's siblings Herman Pangelinan, Sophia Tenorio, and Martina Ada, who is former Saipan Mayor Gilbert Ada's wife; JP's daughter Christina Sablan; nephews and nieces; Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan; Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos; and Mayor Donald Flores with wife Chilang Flores.

"This is the third year that my brother's friends and family have come out to walk in his memory. It touches my heart to see that there are still so many people that love and miss him. Thank you to Tan Holdings, the volunteers, and especially Jerry Tan whom my brother loved like a son," JP's sister Sophia Tenorio told *Saipan Tribune*.

Members of the TanHoldings Football Club have their picture taken right before the start of the 3rd Annual JP Walk, held Feb. 26, 2011, from the JP Center in Garapan to the Susupe Beach Park.
ARIEL MARIANO

Mayor Donald Flores with wife Chilang Flores pose with friends after the walk at the Susupe Beach Park.
ARIEL MARIANO

JP Walk participants have their picture taken at the Susupe Beach Park in front of a banner showing the late Tan Holdings Corp. executive John "JP" Pangelinan.
ARIEL MARIANO

Members of the Shirley's Football Club show their support by participating in the three-mile walk.
ARIEL MARIANO

Tan Holdings Corp. president Jerry Tan pose with friends before the start of the 3rd Annual JP Walk.
ARIEL MARIANO

Niece Ruth Sablan quipped that her uncle would be laughing at her since it was such a chore for her to even walk to the store to get him a drink. "Now I walk three miles each year to show how much I love him and miss him," she said as she thanked everyone who supported the event.

Jenny Pangelinan, JP's daughter who's based in California, thanked everyone who organized and walked for her father. "It moves all of his children when we see and feel the love. My brothers and sisters miss him dearly and we can't express how much all of your efforts mean to us," she added.

Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan, a close friend of the Pangelinan family, said JP will always be remembered in their hearts. "I'm sure he was happy that so many of his loved ones, old friends, and new faces showed up to walk in his memory. We really miss him and know that he's smiling down on us all the time."

Participants in last Saturday's walk were also asked to donate $5 each as the event also served as a fundraising activity. A total of $2,142.50 was raised, to be donated to the Marianas March Against Cancer.

Friends celebrate after reaching the finish line at the Susupe Beach Park.
ARIEL MARIANO

Participants register for the 3rd Annual JP Walk in front of the JP Center in Garapan on Feb. 26, 2011.
ARIEL MARIANO

A band entertains participants at the Susupe Beach Park.
ARIEL MARIANO

Shirley's Coffee Shop general manager Susan Macario and Northern Marinas Badminton general secretary Merlie Tolentino take a break at the Susupe Beach Park.
JAYVEE VALLEJERA

Business

Oil prices jump on Middle East, Bernanke comments

NEW YORK (AP)—Oil prices climbed Tuesday as Iran clamped down on anti-government protesters and unrest in the Middle East threatened to keep energy prices high for months to come.

Benchmark West Texas Intermediate for April delivery gained $2.66 to settle at $99.63 per barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange. In London, Brent crude gained $3.62 to settle at $115.42 per barrel on the ICE Futures exchange.

The recent surge in oil has pushed up gasoline prices in the U.S. by nearly 20 cents per gallon in the past week. That's the sharpest increase since September 2008, when Hurricane Ike shut down Gulf Coast refineries, according to the Oil Price Information Service. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina sent prices soaring about 45 cents per gallon in one week.

Americans are now paying roughly $75.6 million more per day to fill up than a week ago.

The national average added another penny on Tuesday at $3.375 per gallon. Prices should keep rising to between $3.50 and $3.75 by spring, according to OPIS oil analyst Tom Kloza. He said future increases will be much more gradual, because gasoline markets have mostly priced in the recent rise in crude. "So we should flatten out" in coming weeks, Kloza said.

Oil prices surged 13 percent last week, peaking above $100 per barrel, as Libyan protesters expanded their control over the country. While the Libyan uprising continued Tuesday, news agencies reported that Iranian authorities imprisoned opposition leaders in Tehran. Iranian authorities denied the reports.

Pro-reform groups have clashed with the Iranian government. Jailing opposition leaders would be a major escalation of the country's political crisis. Iran exports about 2.5 million barrels of oil and natural gas liquids per day, about 3 percent of global demand.

The Iran protests are among the latest uprisings that have churned through North Africa and the Middle East, a crucial region that's responsible for most of the world's crude exports.

US auto sales jump 27 percent in February

DETROIT (AP)—As more U.S. buyers head back into auto dealerships, automakers are jostling for their attention with sweetened deals.

The major automakers knocked a little extra off sticker prices in February, giving additional momentum to a recovery in sales that started last year. The good news for buyers is that discounts are likely to continue into the spring, as older models like the Toyota Corolla and Chevrolet Malibu duke it out with newer models like the Ford Focus and Hyundai Elantra.

"Sales rates are starting to exceed expectations. It's an opportunity to grab sales from others if you're aggressive enough and you have the right product," said Jesse Toprak, vice president of industry analysis at auto pricing site TrueCar.com.

All the major car companies reported double-digit gains for last month. Improving economic conditions and consumer confidence could mean more gains in the months ahead.

But automakers' results came on a day when oil again approached $100 per barrel on continued unrest in the Arab world. Rising oil prices could still put a damper on the industry's recovery, GM CEO Dan Akerson cautioned on the sidelines of the Geneva Auto Show.

"I don't think the industry learned a lot of lessons from 2008. They will this time around," Akerson said of the 2008 spike in U.S. gas prices to above $4 per gallon, which rapidly changed buying habits.

So far, gas prices aren't having much impact on buying decisions. At AutoNation Inc., the country's largest dealership chain, customers are increasingly considering fuel prices when they decide what model to buy. But there are other factors, said President and Chief Operating Officer Mike Maroone. The company sees the "freak-out point" that changes people's car-buying behavior at $4.25 to $4.50 per gallon, he said.

"We're still a long ways from that," he said. The nationwide average for a gallon of regular gas Tuesday was $3.375, according to AAA.

Auto sales rose 27 percent in February as the economic recovery continued and consumers felt more comfortable taking on a car payment. The strongest showing came from General Motors Co. and Toyota Motor Corp. with increases of more than 40 percent.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Stocks slide as jump in oil prices renews worries

NEW YORK (AP)—Stocks suffered steep losses as oil prices surged on Tuesday, renewing worries that higher fuel prices could hobble the economic recovery. Oil rose $2.66 to settle at $99.63 a barrel amid unrest in Iran and Libya. Iran clamped down on anti-government protesters and forces loyal to Libya's leader Moammar Gadhafi launched counter-attacks against rebels expanding control over the country. Prices jumped 13 percent last week with a rise in turmoil across North Africa and the Middle East. That pushed gas prices up 20 cents per gallon. As a result, Americans are now paying roughly $75 million more per day to fill their gas tanks than a week ago.

Ex-Goldman director charged with insider trading

WASHINGTON (AP)—Depicting moment-to-moment detail, the Securities and Exchange Commission on Tuesday laid out civil fraud charges linking a former Goldman Sachs board member to the biggest hedge fund insider-trading case ever. It's a portrait of corporate board meetings leading to secret phone calls, to stock-trading orders and finally to huge illicit profits made within hours. The SEC charged Rajat Gupta, who has also served on the boards of Procter & Gamble and the parent company for American Airlines. Gupta was a guest at President Barack Obama's first state dinner.

HSBC halts US foreclosures over paperwork errors

LOS ANGELES (AP)—HSBC Holdings PLC is suspending foreclosures in the U.S. after a government review of the lender's procedures revealed problems with the way it handled some home repossessions. The London-based bank's foreclosure moratorium came to light in its annual report Tuesday. HSBC said U.S. government officials determined there were certain deficiencies in the way the lender prepared affidavits and other foreclosure-related documents. "We have suspended foreclosures pending correction of the weaknesses," the company said in the report.

Few taking final offers to settle oil spill claims

NEW ORLEANS (AP)—Records show that in the last two weeks more than 8,100 people and businesses have been offered final payments from BP's oil spill compensation fund, but few have accepted so far. Gulf Coast Claims Facility data show that only about 2.5 percent have accepted. Claimants have 90 days to accept or reject a final offer from the $20 billion fund. The data also show that the 204 claimants who have accepted final payment offers for all past, current and future damage from last year's disaster got an average of $12,188.

Nation

Gov't shutdown averted as House votes $4B cuts

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House passed emergency short-term legislation Tuesday to cut federal spending by $4 billion and avert a government shutdown. Senate Democrats agreed to follow suit, handing Republicans an early victory in their drive to rein in government.

The bill that cleared the House on a bipartisan vote of 335-91 eliminates the threat of a shutdown on March 4, when existing funding authority expires. At the same time, it creates a compressed two-week timeframe for the White House and lawmakers to engage in what looms as a highly contentious negotiation on a follow-up bill to set spending levels through the Sept. 30 end of the fiscal year.

The Senate set a vote on the short-term measure for Wednesday morning, the final step before it goes to President Barack Obama for his signature. "We'll pass this and then look at funding the government on a long-term basis," said Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev.

There was no immediate reaction from the White House, which earlier in the day called publicly for an interim measure of up to five weeks.

House Republicans were more eager to draw attention to the bill that was passing with the acquiescence of the White House and Democrats than to the challenge yet ahead.

"Now that congressional Democrats and the administration have expressed an openness for spending cuts, the momentum is there for a long-term measure that starts to finally get our fiscal house in order," said Majority Leader Eric Cantor of Virginia.

"Changing the culture of borrowing and spending in Washington is no small feat, but I am heartened by today's action and it shows that Republicans have started to make the meaningful changes that voters called for in the last election."

The GOP won control of the House and gained seats in the Senate last fall with the backing of tea party activists demanding deep cuts in spending and other steps to reduce the federal government.

AP

Senate Majority Leader Sen. Harry Reid, D- Nev., talks to the media after a Democratic policy luncheon on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, in Washington.

Panel told no guarantee against unethical research

ATLANTA (AP)—Experts say that the kind of unethical medical studies that occurred half a century ago could still happen again despite more than 1,000 rules and regulations that should prevent such abuses.

Bioethicists and researchers spoke Tuesday before a presidential panel in Washington. The meeting was triggered by the government's apology last fall for federal doctors infecting prisoners and mental patients in Guatemala with syphilis 65 years ago.

President Barack Obama ordered his Commission for the Study of Bioethical Issues to explore whether such a study could ever happen again.

Speakers noted that over the last several decades, as many as 1,000 rules, regulations and guidelines have been enacted worldwide to ensure the ethical conduct of medical research. In the United States, there are rules to protect people in every study done by federal scientists, funded by federal agencies or those testing a product requiring federal approval to be sold.

But that oversight is inconsistent—ethical rules can vary among federal agencies. What's more, if federal funding or review is not involved, an unethical study could be done and no one in authority would ever know about it.

"We have a leaky system," said Eric Meslin, director of the Indiana University Center for Bioethics.

Dr. Robert Califf, Duke University's vice chancellor for clinical research, agreed there are weaknesses.

ACROSS THE NATION

Wis. governor proposes deep cuts for schools

MADISON, Wis. (AP)—After focusing for weeks on his proposal to strip public employees of collective bargaining rights, Gov. Scott Walker on Tuesday presented his full budget—a plan that cuts $1.5 billion in aid to public schools and local government but avoids any tax or fee increases, furloughs or widespread layoffs. Walker said the cuts could be paid for in large part by forcing government employees to pay more for their pension and health care benefits, and he gave no indication of softening his demand to reduce the power of public unions. The idea remains in limbo after Senate Democrats fled the state to prevent a vote. "This is a reform budget," Walker told lawmakers inside the Assembly chamber as protesters on the floor below screamed, banged on drums and blew horns.

Army's new fitness tests add taste of battlefield

FORT JACKSON, S.C. (AP)—Sit-ups don't make a soldier, the Army has decided. So its 30-year-old fitness requirements are getting a battlefield-inspired makeover. Soon every soldier will have to run on a balance beam with two 30-pound canisters of ammunition, drag a sled weighted with 180 pounds of sandbags and vault over obstacles while carrying a rifle. Those were just some of the tests the Army unveiled Tuesday as it moves toward making its physical training look more like combat. Right now soldiers have to complete sit-ups, push-ups and a two-mile run twice a year within times that vary by age and gender.

More charges to be filed in deadly day care fire

HOUSTON (AP)—Prosecutors say they plan to file nine more charges against a Houston day care operator who left the children she was watching alone when a deadly fire started at the facility. The blaze killed four children. Twenty-two-year-old Jessica Tata already has been charged with reckless injury to a child. Harris County District Attorney Pat Lykos said Tuesday that her office plans to file six more similar charges along with three other charges of child endangerment.

Asia

NZ quake toll rises to 159, many still missing

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand (AP)—The bodies of some victims of New Zealand's devastating earthquake may never be recovered because they were pulverized by the buildings that collapsed around them, police said Wednesday.

Police Superintendent Dave Cliff said four more bodies had been pulled from rubble by recovery teams in the shattered city of Christchurch overnight Tuesday, taking the total death toll to 159.

Many more people remain missing, and Cliff has said the final tally is likely to be around 240.

More than 900 urban disaster specialists are working at sites across the southern city picking through the remains of wrecked buildings and clearing away debris, as the massive operation moved into its second week.

No one has been pulled alive from the rubble since 26 hours after the Feb. 22 quake, and officials are pessimistic about finding any other survivors.

The operation to recover bodies has been slowed by near constant aftershocks that have rumbled through the city, threatening to bring further debris raining down from damaged buildings.

Authorities have appealed for patience from families waiting for news of missing relatives, saying that the remains of some people who were caught in falling buildings can be identified only through DNA testing or dental records.

"There may be some cases where, because of the enormous forces involved in this, that it may not be possible to retrieve bodies in all cases," Cliff told reporters Wednesday. "We need to alert people to that possibility."

Among those listed as missing are an unknown number of students and staff from Japan, China and other countries who were at an English language school that was housed in one of two office buildings that completely collapsed in the quake. Police said last week that up to 120 bodies were inside the Canterbury Television, or CTV, building, where the language school was located.

Strong winds were hampering rescue and recovery operations Wednesday, threatening to bring down bricks and masonry from already-damaged buildings and spreading clouds of dust around the city.

Some of the city's 350,000 residents donned face masks when they went outside to protect themselves from the dust.

The magnitude 6.3 quake struck within a few miles (kilometers) of downtown Christchurch, when the city was bustling with workers, shoppers and tourists going about their weekday afternoon activities. It brought down or badly damaged office towers, churches and thousands of homes across the city.

Tribal peace deal in Afghanistan on shaky ground

SANGIN, Afghanistan (AP)—U.S. Marines battling the Taliban in this insurgent stronghold in southern Afghanistan are increasingly dubious about prospects for a high-profile peace deal struck two months ago between the government and the area's largest tribe.

The agreement is vital to coalition efforts to win control of Helmand province's Sangin district, one of the country's biggest narcotics hubs that funds the insurgents, and a gateway for fighters to stream into Kandahar province, the Taliban's spiritual heartland.

Peace could also determine the fate of a nearby dam that provides electricity to southern Afghanistan.

High-level U.S. and Afghan officials insist the deal is working, and could become a model for other groups looking to switch allegiance from the Taliban to the government—a key goal of the top NATO commander in Afghanistan, Gen. David Petraeus.

Elders of the Alikozai tribe agreed two months ago to prevent attacks on coalition forces in their section of Sangin in return for aid to build schools, clinics and other needs.

But attacks have continued against Marines in the Upper Sangin Valley, either from Alikozai who reject the deal or other fighters beyond the tribe's control, said Lt. Col. Jason Morris, commander of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment in Sangin.

Fighting has been less intense than before the deal, but that applies throughout the district, a development the Marines on the ground in Sangin believe is driven by the normal winter lull and the hundreds of casualties inflicted on the Taliban.

"While some are still optimistic that the agreement is in place, others, including me, are much more suspect about whether there actually is an agreement or if they are capable of upholding an agreement," Morris, commander of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, said in an interview.

Maj. Chris Bopp, the operations officer for the 2nd Marine Reconnaissance Battalion in the area, said it's hard to know how many Alikozai rank-and-file even know about the deal.

People in the Upper Sangin Valley say the recent attacks are being carried out by "foreign fighters," meaning fighters from outside their area, but that is a common refrain in Afghanistan and must be viewed skeptically, said Bopp, 37, from Catonsville, Maryland.

ASIAN BRIEFS

SKoreans to send propaganda leaflets toward NKorea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korean activists say they will continue launching propaganda leaflets toward North Korea despite Pyongyang's threats to fire at South Korean border towns in retaliation. The North's military warned Sunday that it would open fire if Seoul allows activists to keep sending balloons carrying leaflets critical of Pyongyang. But the Seoul-based Fighters for Free North Korea says it won't bow to the North's threat and will send about 200,000 propaganda leaflets by balloon early next week. Group chief Park Sang-hak said Wednesday that the leaflets will contain news about anti-government protests in the Middle East and will urge North Koreans to rise up against Kim Jong Il's rule.

India seeks return of accused soldier from US

SRINAGAR, India (AP)—India will ask the United States to extradite an ex-army officer who is accused of kidnapping and killing a Kashmiri human rights lawyer 15 years ago and is now living in California, investigators said Tuesday. Avtar Singh, who was a major in the Indian army in the 1990s, fled the country after he was accused of killing Jaleel Andrabi in Indian-controlled Kashmir's main city, Srinagar. His location was discovered after he was arrested Feb. 21 in California in a domestic violence case and later released on bail, said Raja Ajaz Ali, a police officer and Interpol liaison officer in Indian Kashmir.

Sony unit apologizes for band's Nazi-like costumes

TOKYO (AP)—Executives from a Japanese Sony music unit apologized Wednesday for a rock band under its management that dressed up like Nazis on a national TV broadcast. The apology from Sony Music Artists Inc. came after an international Jewish group complained about Japanese band "Kishidan" wearing the costumes during an appearance on an MTV Networks Japan show that aired a week earlier. Images broadcast on the "Megavector" program show the six-member band in black uniforms resembling those of Nazi soldiers, with distinctive red arm bands and epaulets.

World

Gadhafi forces retake towns near Libyan capital

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—Moammar Gadhafi's forces battled poorly armed rebels Tuesday for control of towns near the capital trying to create a buffer zone around his seat of power. The increasingly violent clashes threatened to transform the 15-day popular rebellion in Libya into a drawn-out civil war.

Amid the intensified fighting, the international community stepped up moves to isolate the longtime Libyan leader.

U.S. Defense Secretary Robert Gates said he ordered two ships into the Mediterranean, including the amphibious assault ship USS Kearsarge, and he is sending 400 Marines to the vessel to replace some troops that left recently for Afghanistan.

Military leaders weighing a no-fly zone over Libya said it would be a complex task that would require taking out Gadhafi's air defenses, and Russia's top diplomat dismissed the idea as "superfluous" and said world powers should focus on sanctions.

Gadhafi's son, Seif al-Islam, warned Western forces not to take military action against Libya and said the country is prepared to defend itself against foreign intervention.

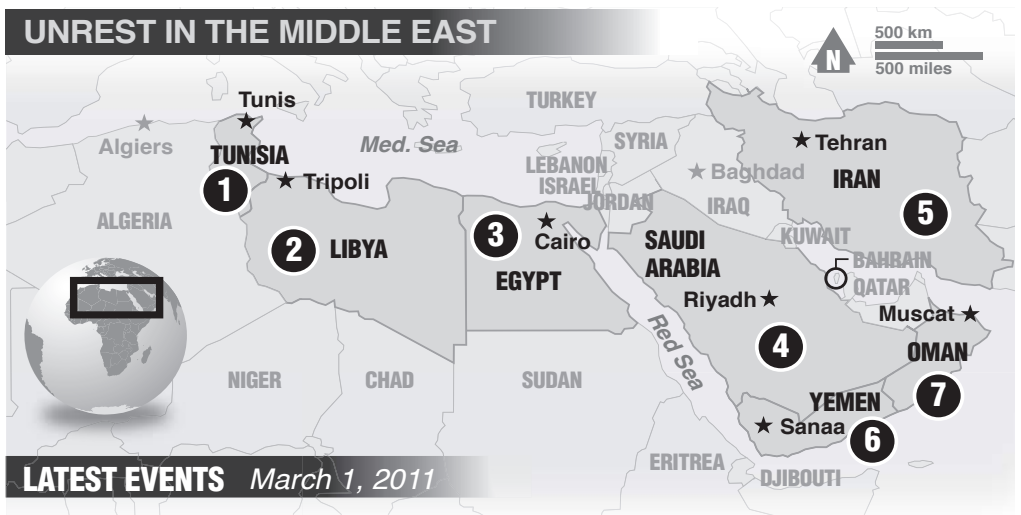
"If they attack us, we are ready," he told Sky News, adding that the Gadhafis are ready to implement reforms.

Facing an unprecedented challenge to his 41-year rule, Gadhafi's regime has launched the bloodiest crackdown in a wave of uprising against authoritarian rulers in the Middle East. Gadhafi has already lost control of the eastern half of the country but still holds Tripoli and other nearby cities.

An exact death toll has been difficult to obtain in the chaos, but a medical committee in the eastern city of Benghazi, where the uprising began on Feb. 15, said at least 228 people had been killed, including 30 unidentified bodies, and 1,932 wounded.

U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon has cited reports that perhaps 1,000 have died in Libya.

Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton told Congress that the U.S. must lead an international response to the crisis, including expanding already tough financial and travel sanctions against Gadhafi, his family and confidants and possibly imposing a no-fly zone over Libya.



1. Tunisia Prominent opposition leader quits unity government; long-banned Islamist party is legalized

2. Libya Protesters repel Gadhafi forces trying to retake several cities; thousands of migrant workers still stranded at Libya's borders

3. Egypt Officials delay restart of stock exchange; market is expected to suffer as Egypt rebuilds new government

4. Saudi Arabia Prominent Shiite cleric is reportedly arrested after delivering sermon in favor of establishing a constitutional monarchy

5. Iran Police break up anti-government protests demanding the release of two opposition leaders

6. Yemen President Saleh accuses U.S. of instigating protests against his regime; hundreds of thousands march for Saleh's ouster

7. Oman Troops deployed north of capital Muscat and near UAE border following three days of protests

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Source: AP

Yemeni president says US and Israel behind unrest

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Yemen's embattled president on Tuesday accused the U.S., his closest ally, of instigating the mounting protests against him, but the gambit failed to slow the momentum for his ouster.

Hundreds of thousands rallied in cities across Yemen against the government of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, in the largest of the protests of the past month, including one addressed by an influential firebrand cleric, a former ally of Saleh, whom the U.S. has linked to al-Qaida.

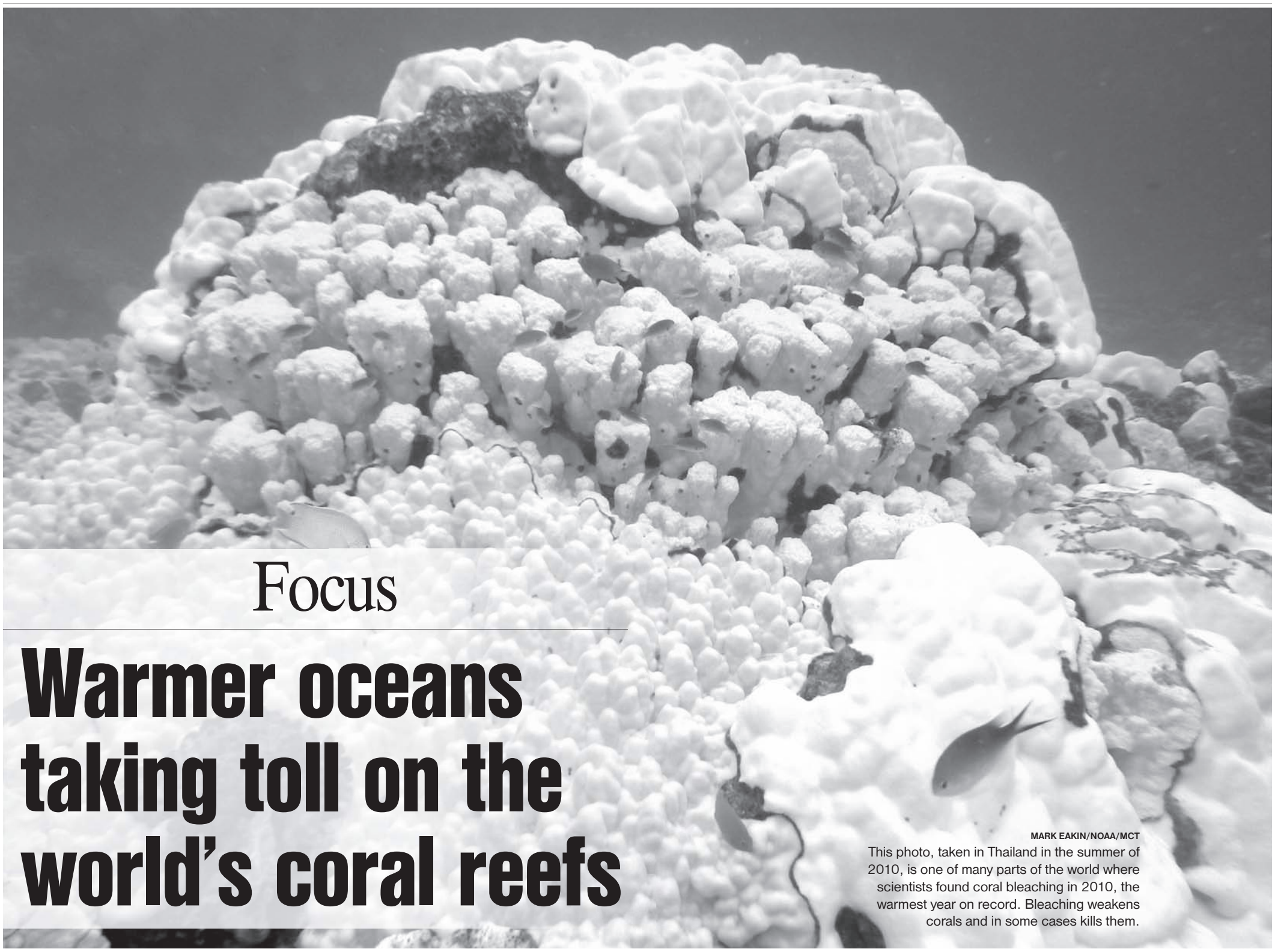
"Go on until you achieve your demands," Sheik Abdul-Majid al-Zindani told tens of thousands of demonstrators in the capital of Sanaa. A former U.S. ambassador to Yemen called al-Zindani's decision to turn against President Ali Abdullah Saleh a major setback for the president.

Some warned that the current political turmoil and possible collapse of Saleh's regime could give a further opening to Yemen's offshoot of the global terror network, al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula.

James Jones, former White House National Security Advisor, warned a Washington conference that Yemen's crisis "could deepen the current vacuum of power in Yemen on which al Qaida has thrived."

The Yemen-based al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, believed to have been involved in the attempted 2009 bombing of an American airliner, is seen as particularly active and threatening to the U.S.

Saleh has been a weak but important U.S. ally in the fight against al-Qaida, accepting tens of millions of dollars in U.S. military and other aid and allowing American drone strikes on al-Qaida targets.



MARK EAKIN/NOAA/MCT
This photo, taken in Thailand in the summer of 2010, is one of many parts of the world where scientists found coral bleaching in 2010, the warmest year on record. Bleaching weakens corals and in some cases kills them.

Focus

Warmer oceans taking toll on the world's coral reefs

By RENEE SCHOOF
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

WASHINGTON—Global warming took a toll on coral reefs in 2010, endangering one of the world's key ecosystems that benefit people in countless ways.

Coral reefs are habitat for almost 100,000 known marine species, including about 40 percent of all fish species. They feed millions of people, protect coasts by absorbing wave energy, and shelter creatures that could become sources of medicine for treating cancer, HIV/AIDS and other diseases.

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration satellite data show that 2010, the warmest on record, was hard on corals. Warmer than normal temperatures stressed tropical corals, causing them to bleach—expelling the algae that live in their tissue, giving them color and nourishment.

Some 75 percent of the world's reefs are threatened by climate change, overfishing and pollution, according to a new assessment from the World Resources Institute and other conservation organizations. The number increased dramatically from the group's last assessment in 1998.

"It will take a Herculean effort to reverse the current trajectory and leave healthy ocean ecosystems to our children and grandchildren," said Jane Lubchenco, the marine scientist who heads NOAA. "How the world rises to this challenge is a reflection of our commitment to one another and to the natural world that gives us sustenance, wisdom and a reflection of our souls."

Coral reefs cover less than a tenth of 1 percent of the oceans' acreage, but that's still about 100,000 square miles. Scientists who dive to study reefs can't cover them all, so they're turning increasingly for help from satellites.

NOAA's satellite data on ocean heat showed that bleaching is occurring in all regions and becoming more frequent. Extreme bleaching kills corals because they can't survive without the nourishment the algae provide. Less intense bleaching can weaken corals, reduce their growth and reproductive ability, and make them more vulnerable to disease.

Mark Eakin, a University of Miami-trained oceanographer who coordinates NOAA's Coral Reef Watch satellite program, said that 2010 was only the second time on record that bleaching occurred globally.

The first global bleaching, from 1997 to 1999, came when an exceedingly strong El Nino—a periodic warming of ocean surface temperatures in the tropical Pacific—was followed by an especially strong version of its opposite counterpart, La Nina. About 15 percent of the world's corals died then.

"Fast forward to 2010," Eakin said. This time, El Nino and the La Nina that followed weren't nearly as strong.

> "I don't think we're going to lose all corals, but we will probably lose species, and ecosystems will be severely degraded."

"The problem that we're seeing is, as the oceans keep warming on a year-to-year basis, it doesn't take as big or as unusual conditions to result in this sort of event."

The bleaching from last year in many places was the worst since 1998. In the warmest months, bleaching hit the Pacific, the Indian Ocean, Southeast Asia and the southern Caribbean.

The Florida Keys and the northern part of the Caribbean, where unprecedented bleaching occurred in 2005, were spared last year because tropical storms cooled the waters.

Coral reefs are more diverse in life forms than even rain forests. The most abundant life is in the Coral Triangle, from the Philippines down to Indonesia and across to Papua New Guinea.

"I've been diving in some places there where I see more species on any given reef than we have in all of the Caribbean," Eakin said.

In Thailand, where he visited reefs last summer, nearly all were hit by bleaching.

Andrew Baird, a scientist at the Australian Research Council's Coral Reef Studies center, said he just returned from Indonesia's Aceh province, where nearly 100 percent of corals died at most sites. He said the total loss of coral cover could range from 50 percent to 80 percent.

"This is as bad as I have ever seen," Baird said. A similar level of bleaching is likely in Thailand and India, but it isn't nearly as bad elsewhere, he said.

Baird said it's highly likely that the most recent bleaching was connected to global warming.

"It's almost certainly the heat that was primarily responsible, but also low winds and therefore higher than usual penetration of sunlight could also have been involved," he said.

Ove Hoegh-Guldberg, the director of the Global Change Institute at the University of Queensland in Australia, said it's not surprising that the hottest year on record brought widespread coral bleaching and mortality. He said that scientists have reported that mass bleaching in the Philippines and Indonesia resulted in about 30 percent to 40 percent of the corals dying.

The accumulation of carbon dioxide, the primary heat-trapping gas contributing to global warming, also is expected to damage corals by making the oceans more acidic.

"To our knowledge, ocean acidification doesn't kill corals, but what it does is it makes them grow more slowly," Eakin said.

Carbon dioxide in the atmosphere is now higher than any time in 800,000 years.

"We probably sometime around the 1980s passed the levels that are conducive to coral reef growth in terms of temperatures and CO2 in the atmosphere," Eakin said. "What we really need is to get back to where we were in the '80s."

That would mean reducing greenhouse gases to about 350 parts per million. It's 390 now and will be 560, or double preindustrial levels, by midcentury, according to the latest projections.

At that level, "we'll have major problems in reefs around the world," Eakin said.

"I don't think we're going to lose all corals, but we will probably lose species, and ecosystems will be severely degraded."

The World Resources Institute report projected that if current rates of greenhouse gas emissions continue, about half of the world's reefs will suffer enough warming to cause severe bleaching most years in the 2030s, and 95 percent of them will in the 2050s.

Environment

Negative ecological trends seen in LaoLao Bay

Coral reef surveys recently completed by the Division of Environmental Quality show a decline in the health of LaoLao Bay's reef ecosystem over the past 20 years. The surveys are part of the LaoLao Bay Road and Coastal Management Improvement Plan funded by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act.

Results of surveys performed by Dr. Peter Houk of Pacific Marine Resources Institute and the DEQ Marine Monitoring Team were compared to identical surveys completed in 1991 for a pre-construction marine resource assessment associated with the LaoLao Bay Golf Resort. Negative trends in LaoLao reef health include:

■ Significant increase of seasonal brown macroalgae, as well as persistent red algae on the reef flats. This proliferation of macroalgae is considered undesirable, and has cascading impacts to other components of the coral reef ecosystem;

■ Coral assemblages have shifted from larger, more structurally-complex colonies to numerous small encrusting colonies, providing less habitat for reef-dwelling organisms;

■ Species richness of coral has declined throughout most of LaoLao, and is most pronounced in the eastern portion of the bay;

■ Fish densities have shown significant declines, mainly a shift from large-bodied fish to smaller ones;

■ The functional diversity of fish has also declined significantly, meaning reduced grazing efficiency on the reef associated habitats, and more space for macroalgae and undesirable substrate to grow.

The DEQ surveys are part of a three-year marine monitoring project at LaoLao Bay that will study the effects of road paving, grading, and drainage improvements to be constructed this year. The ARRA-funded project is a joint effort by DEQ and the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration to restore Saipan's coral reefs by addressing upland sources of sedimentation. ***(DEQ)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DEQ biologist Steven Johnson conducts photo-quadrant surveys in LaoLao Bay to provide insight into the benthic assemblages.

'Earth' at the next First Friday Films

Join First Friday Films tomorrow for a journey around the planet from the perspective of nature's most mysterious and elusive animals. Disneynature's *Earth* will be screened Friday at 6:30pm at the American Memorial Park Visitor's Center as part of this monthly event.

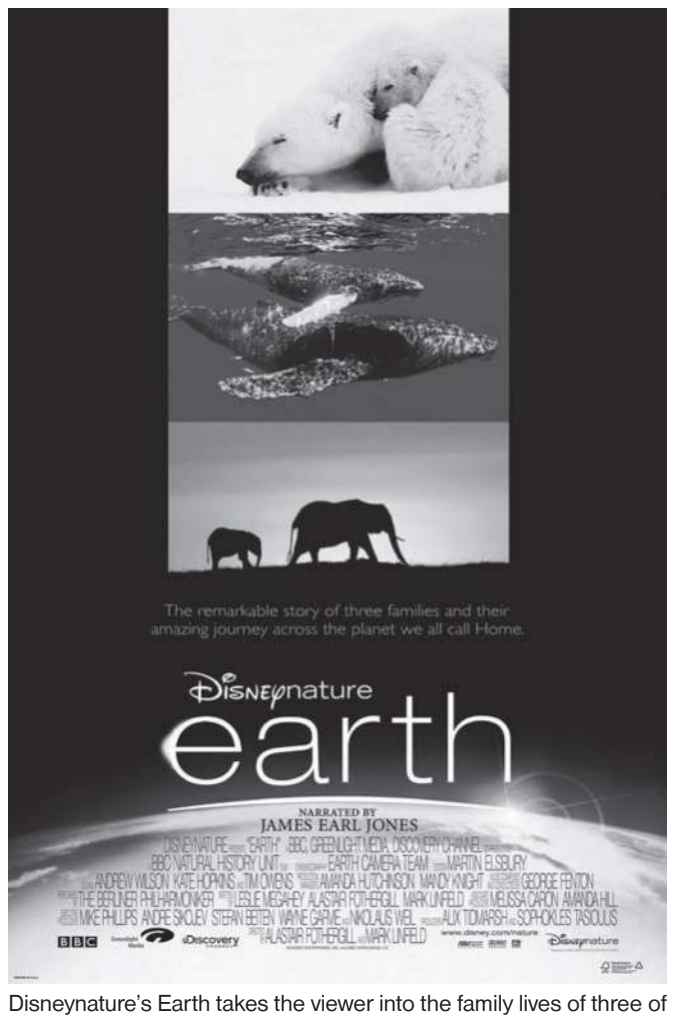
The animated feature *The Man Who Planted Trees,* which was scheduled to play this month, will be rescheduled to the April 1 event due to some logistical delays.

Audiences, however, will not be disappointed by Disneynature's *Earth*, which takes the viewer into the personal family lives of three of the world's most charismatic and elusive animals: the polar bear, elephant, and humpback whale. Filled with adventure and suspense, the film ventures into the realm of these wild animals and the spectacular world in which they exist. Created with rare footage and remarkable scenes, it is an inspiring film for all ages.

First Friday Films is a monthly environmental film series organized by the National Park Service and the Division of Environmental Quality.

The Pacific Historic Parks (formerly the Arizona Memorial Museum Association) Bookstore, located inside the visitor's center, will be open until 8:30pm. All proceeds go to community education programs.

As always, First Friday Films is free and open to the public. For planning purposes, the movie runs about 90 minutes long; find more information about the film at www.firstfridayfilmssaipan.blogspot.com. Subscribe to the blog for regular updates on upcoming events. ***(PR)***


The remarkable story of three families and their amazing journey across the planet we all call Home.
Disneynature
earth
NARRATED BY
JAMES EARL JONES

Disneynature's Earth takes the viewer into the family lives of three of the world's most charismatic animals: the polar bear, elephant, and humpback whale.

Spend the summer helping coral reefs

Several college or college-bound students will have the opportunity this summer to work in coral reef conservation as part of the CNMI's Coral Reef Initiative Summer Internship Program.

Local government agencies and nonprofit organizations will host up to 12 college students or recent high school graduates with an interest in learning more about coral reef resource management. Summer interns typically work about 20 hours a week between June and August and are paid $8 per hour.

In the past, internships have been available in:

■ Marine monitoring
■ Geographic information systems
■ Community education and outreach
■ Fisheries
■ Enforcement
■ Non point source pollution

The deadline to submit your application materials is April 11. To be considered for the programs applicants must please submit the following documents:

■ CNMI employment application
■ Two letters of recommendation
■ Resume
■ Copy of photo identification
■ Transcripts
■ Cover letter
■ Police clearance

Materials can be e-mailed to brooke.nevitt@crm.gov.mp or lisaeller@deq.gov.mp or mailed or faxed to:

Coastal Resources Management Office
Attn: Brooke Nevitt
Caller Box 10007
Saipan, MP 96950
Fax (670) 664-8315

For more information call 664-8300.

Going green adds up to savings

By TERRI BENNETT
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

We've all heard that going green is too expensive, not cost-effective, or that it just isn't financially responsible in these tough economic times. That's just not the case. There are ways to Do Your Part to be easier on the planet and our wallets. Here are a few ways to incorporate everyday green living techniques into your routine and start saving right away.

BUY BIG

There are two good reasons to buy in bulk when it makes sense.

It'll save you money and it saves resources. If you're a mom who always sends individually wrapped packages of crackers in their child's lunchbox, this is a good place to save. I've added it up. It'll cost you about 4 times as much when you go with the single serving packaging.

And usually those individual containers and pouches are pretty hard to recycle.

GO THE REUSABLE ROUTE

What's worse than throwing out barely used paper towels? Spending all that money on them. The cheapest paper towels on the market are about a dollar a roll. If you go through two rolls a week, that's more than $200 a year! Save that money and keep dish towels and rags handy. It's much more eco-friendly to launder them than it is to keep buying one-use paper towels. There are others ways to go the reusable route every day. Think of how much money you'll save if you make the switch to reusable water bottles, cloth napkins, and reusable food containers. And, most grocery stores now provide financial incentives when you use reusable bags.

DON'T BUY WHAT YOU CAN MAKE

Lots of us have a bunch of household cleaners stockpiled in a kitchen cabinet. They're downright expensive and many chemical-based ones can actually pollute our homes. Save money and have a healthier home by making your own green cleaners. An effective green cleaning kit will contain white vinegar, baking soda, and borax. Want to know just what you'll save? You can buy a 128oz jug of vinegar for about $3.49. That's the same price of the leading glass cleaner, which is only 26oz. If you whip up a glass cleaner using 1 part vinegar to 1 part water, that jug of vinegar will last nearly 10 times longer than the store bought cleaner for the exact same price. You can get all my cleaning recipes at DoYourPart.com/columns.

ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVES

A few weekend projects at home can have you saving serious money each month. Half of our monthly utility usage goes towards heating and cooling our homes. Adding a little weatherstripping where needed will help you keep treated air from escaping. Insulating attic doors will make a dent in your utility bills too. Installing programmable thermostats can help you slash another 10 percent. And, doing a little maintenance like cleaning your refrigerator coils and the vent line from your clothes dryer will keep them running more efficiently.

Saving a little green isn't hard to do especially when you Do Your Part to go green.

Terri Bennett is a veteran TV meteorologist, syndicated columnist, and host of DoYourPart.com where you can find everyday green living ideas that are better for you and the planet. Send questions to terri@doyourpart.com.

Life & Style

Fashion provocateur Galliano sacked by Dior

PARIS (AP)—John Galliano, long a top fashion-world provocateur on and off the runway, went too far this time.

The storied French label Christian Dior said Tuesday it was firing the zany British bad boy after video showing him spouting "I love Hitler" in a drunken rant went viral online—sending shock waves through the start of Paris Fashion Week.

The ouster followed a barrage of accusations and revelations about Galliano's outbursts that spelled major career trouble for the talented and moneymaking couturier.

The allegations of bigotry had put Dior, which battles crosstown rival Chanel for the title of world's top fashion house, in the hot seat: Oscar-winning actress Natalie Portman, the new advertising face of the Miss Dior Cherie perfume line, who is Jewish, expressed fury over the remarks.

Galliano's sacking marked the latest bout of scandal to shake the rarified fashion world, including last year's suicide of Alexander McQueen, another celebrated British designer, and supermodel Kate Moss' brief stint in the industry wilderness after photos of her snorting cocaine went public in 2005.

"Knowing John's proclivity for provocation on the runway and in life, to hear such accusations wasn't surprising," said Dana Thomas, a fashion guru and author of "Deluxe: How Luxury Lost its Luster," an expose of the luxury industry.

"But the videos that went viral yesterday were too damning to deny," she said. "I'm sure (Dior CEO Sidney) Toledano was deeply hurt because he's Jewish."

"It's an insolence that's unforgivable," she added.

Fashionistas almost uniformly said Dior would pull through the controversy, and some even suggested the episode gave it a chance to clean its slate after Galliano's 15-year reign as its mastermind of creation.

The 50-year-old designer's tailspin began after a couple accused him of hurling anti-Semitic insults at them Thursday at La Perle, a trendy eatery in Paris' Marais district—a hip neighborhood known for its sizable gay and Jewish populations.

As word got out that police were investigating, another woman came forward Saturday accusing Galliano of similar anti-Semitic insults in October at the same brasserie.

In this Monday, Feb. 28, 2011 file photo, Fashion designer John Galliano arrives at a police station in Paris.

AP

Christina Aguilera accused of public drunkenness

WEST HOLLYWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Fresh from a stumble at the Grammys and muffing the national anthem at the Super Bowl, singer Christina Aguilera was arrested early Tuesday near the Sunset Strip on suspicion of being drunk in public but will not be prosecuted, authorities said.

Aguilera, 30, was "extremely intoxicated" when a car driven by her boyfriend was stopped at about 2:45 a.m. on Clark Street, Los Angeles County sheriff's Deputy Bill McSweeney said.

Sheriff's spokesman Steve Whitmore said Aguilera "didn't really understand where she was" but was cooperative.

"She was not belligerent in any way whatsoever," Whitmore said.

Deputies saw the Mustang "burn rubber" and fishtail onto a street, he said.

The noise could be heard 100 feet away and constituted an "exhibition of speed" that prompted deputies to immediately stop the car, Whitmore said.

They smelled alcohol on the breath of 25-year-old Matthew Rutler, and a field sobriety test found him to have a blood-alcohol level of 0.09 percent, Whitmore said.

AP

In this Jan. 16, 2011 file photo, Christina Aguilera, right, arrives with Matthew Rutler for the Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.

In California, a driver is legally under the influence at or above 0.08 percent.

The car was stopped just off the Sunset Strip, not far from such famous nightspots as Whiskey A Go-Go and the Viper Room.

Rutler was arrested on suspicion of DUI and later released on $5,000 bail. Sheriff's officials didn't know if Rutler had hired an attorney, and no phone listing for him could be found.

McSweeney said Aguilera appeared too drunk to care for herself and had no driver to take her home. She was arrested on suspicion of being drunk in public so she could be held at the West Hollywood sheriff's station, he said.

US congressman tops 'Jeopardy' computer Watson

WASHINGTON (AP)—Turns out it really does take a rocket scientist to beat Watson, the "Jeopardy"-winning computer.

U.S. Rep. Rush Holt of New Jersey—a five-time champion during the trivia show's original run 35 years ago—topped the IBM computer Monday night in a "Jeopardy"-style match of congressmen vs. machine held at a Washington hotel.

Holt

Though Holt isn't the first human to beat Watson, the victory adds to the 62-year-old Democrat's already-impressive resume: a former State Department arms control expert and ex-leader of the federal Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory.

"I wonder if Watson wasn't having a low-voltage night, because I certainly didn't expect to score higher than the computer," he told The Associated Press in an interview Tuesday.

He built a lead in categories including "Presidential Rhyme Time," in which the correct response to "Herbert's military strategy" was "Hoover's maneuvers." The congressman also correctly identified hippophobia as the fear of horses.

Watson beat him to the buzzer with "love" when prompted on what Ambrose Bierce described as "a temporary insanity curable by marriage."

Holt played the first round along with Rep. Bill Cassidy, a Louisiana Republican. At the end of the round, Holt had earned $8,600 to Watson's $6,200.

But the computer ultimately triumphed in later rounds against the other representatives: Nan Hayworth, a New York Republican; Jim Himes, a Connecticut Democrat, and Jared Polis, a Colorado Democrat. Watson amassed a combined $40,300 to the humans' $30,000.

Watson, designed specifically to excel at the type of answers-and-questions format used on "Jeopardy," took 25 IBM scientists four years to create.

Natalie Portman 'disgusted' by Galliano's remarks

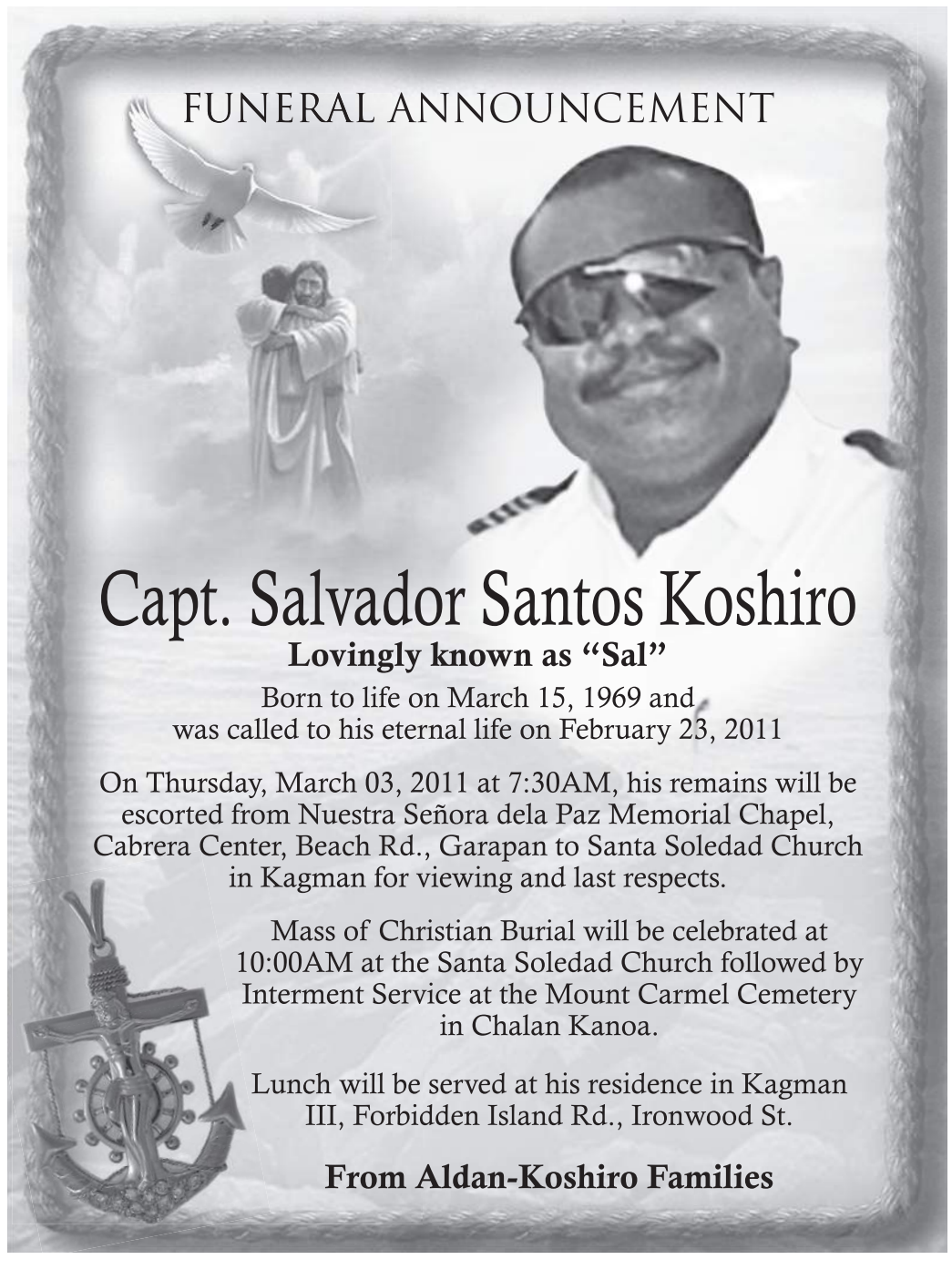
PARIS (AP)—Oscar-winning actress Natalie Portman says she is "shocked and disgusted" by a video in which designer John Galliano says he loves Adolf Hitler.

Portman says in a statement that "as an individual who is proud to be Jewish, I will not be associated with Mr. Galliano in any way."

Both stars work with Christian Dior. Portman is spokesmodel for Miss Dior Cherie perfume. Galliano has been suspended as Dior's creative director pending an investigation into an alleged anti-Semitic incident in a Paris cafe last week.

Portman's statement was provided Tuesday to The Associated Press after a video posted online showed Galliano, in a different incident, drunkenly telling a cafe patron, "I love Hitler."

Portman won the best actress Oscar on Sunday for "Black Swan."


FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT
Capt. Salvador Santos Koshiro
Lovingly known as "Sal"
Born to life on March 15, 1969 and
was called to his eternal life on February 23, 2011
On Thursday, March 03, 2011 at 7:30AM, his remains will be escorted from Nuestra Señora dela Paz Memorial Chapel, Cabrera Center, Beach Rd., Garapan to Santa Soledad Church in Kagman for viewing and last respects.
Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:00AM at the Santa Soledad Church followed by Interment Service at the Mount Carmel Cemetery in Chalan Kanoa.
Lunch will be served at his residence in Kagman III, Forbidden Island Rd., Ironwood St.
From Aldan-Koshiro Families

Katie Holmes sues Star Magazine over cover

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Katie Holmes sued the publishers of Star Magazine on Tuesday, accusing them of libel over a magazine cover that insinuated she was a drug addict.

The actress filed the lawsuit against American Media Inc. in federal court in Los Angeles. She said a January cover that featured the headline "Katie DRUG SHOCKER!" was false and not supported by the actual story in the magazine.

The cover featured a disheveled picture of Holmes, and the story itself claimed she was "trapped in a cycle of addictive treatments," based on interviews with former Scientology members.

In this Jan. 16, 2011 file photo, actress Katie Holmes is pictured before announcing nominations for the 68th Annual Golden Globe Awards in Beverly Hills, Calif.

AP

"Star Magazine's malicious claims about Katie are untrue, unethical and unlawful," Holmes' attorney, Bert Fields, wrote in a statement. "Not only do they cruelly defame Katie, they play a cheap trick on the public, making ridiculously false claims on the cover unsupported by anything inside."

The complaint also states the cover story implies that Holmes is looking to split from husband Tom Cruise, which the lawsuit states is untrue.

""Of all the fabricated stories that continue to be published about me, this instance is beyond the pale," Holmes said in a statement. "The publisher knew this outrageous story was false and printed it anyway to sell magazines."

Star Magazine is standing by its story and said in a statement that it raises significant concerns about Church of Scientology practices, including the use of e-meters, devices that practitioners believe detect mental trauma.

"Star fully stands behind the editorial integrity of what we have published concerning Ms. Holmes' controversial use of the Scientology 'e-meter,'" the statement reads. "The physical effect of the e-meter on its users is a matter of significant public concern and we plan to vigorously defend the suit filed by Ms. Holmes.

CBS chief: 'Two and a Half Men' future uncertain

LOS ANGELES (AP)—CBS Chief Executive Leslie Moonves described the future of crisis-ridden sitcom "Two and a Half Men" as uncertain while star Charlie Sheen spoke of a drug-free life with two "goddess" girlfriends at his home dubbed Sober Valley Lodge.

Moonves, interviewed at an investors' conference Tuesday in San Francisco, said he hoped TV's top-rated comedy would return to CBS, adding, "We'll see."

Moonves

Sheen's personal woes and public tirades against producers of "Two and a Half Men" reduced the show's season, but Moonves said CBS isn't suffering financially in the short term because paying for fewer episodes than planned of the expensive sitcom is "financially a gainer."

"Going down the road ... I don't know what's going to happen," he said, then took a poke at Sheen's ongoing media tour. "He's on the air quite a bit these days. I wish he would have worked this hard to promote himself for an Emmy." Sheen has been nominated four times for lead actor in a comedy series for "Men," but has never won.

Meanwhile, Sheen, 45, was a guest on Howard Stern's radio show Tuesday, discussing his career as a Hollywood playboy, after a return to NBC's "Today." The actor kept up his aggressive public relations campaign against the network, producer Warner Bros. Television and critics of his style.

Asked on "Today" about reaction to previous comments in which he called himself "a total rock star from Mars," among other startling descriptions, Sheen shrugged off the reaction.

"I am grandiose because I live a grandiose life. I'm tired of being `aw shucks.' That's not me. ... What's wrong with that?" he said.

Sheen had high praise for the two women living with him whom he calls "goddesses."

"These women don't judge me. ... They don't lead with opinion. They don't lead with their own needs all the time," he said.

Asked if the pair help care for his children, who include nearly 2-year-old twins with Brooke Mueller, Sheen replied, "Oh, yeah. If I can't be there, they're there, and it's like everybody helps out. ... There's nothing broken here."

Reba inducted into Country Music Hall of Fame

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—In what host Kix Brooks called a "bittersweet" moment, Reba McEntire joined Jean Shepard and Bobby Braddock as the latest inductees into The Country Music Hall of Fame on Tuesday morning. But country's reigning queen was at her father's side and couldn't make it to the celebration.

Clark McEntire is in a coma in a Tulsa, Okla., hospital. McEntire was able to share the news of her induction with her father before a stroke left him gravely ill. She sent a note to be read by her good friend Brooks during a news conference at the hall of fame and museum.

"I really need to be with my mama and daddy right now," McEntire wrote. "I know it's where I should be. Thanks again for this wonderful honor. By the way, I told daddy about being inducted two days before he went into the coma. It's a huge blessing for me knowing how important that was to him. Love you all, Reba."

While emotionally difficult, it was a triumphant day for the women of country music and for songwriters, the lifeblood of the genre. Shepard was among the first pioneering women to clear the way for performers like McEntire to reinvent country music from a woman's perspective. Even Braddock helped raise the lot of women in the male-dominated genre, penning some of Tammy Wynette's classic songs.

AP

In this June 11, 2010 file photo, Reba McEntire performs during the CMA Music Festival in Nashville, Tenn.

"I look around here in this rotunda and all I see is 90 percent men," a spunky 77-year-old Shepard said as she took the stage. "Where's the ladies?"

Shepard and McEntire will go a long way to filling that void. In many ways they served the same role, though in vastly different times.

Shepard, known as "The Grand Lady of The Grand Ole Opry" as she enters her 56th year on the show, paired with fellow Hall of Fame member Ferlin Husky in 1953 on "A Dear John Letter," her first No. 1 country hit. The song went to No. 4 on the Billboard pop chart and made her the first million-selling female artist in the post-World War II era.

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Friday		4:15	7:15	10:00
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	10:00
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon thru Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Owen Wilson, Jason Sudeikis
Comedy • Rated R

Synopsis
Owen Wilson stars as a married man who is granted one week to live a bachelor's life, but runs into a moral snag when his wife heads out on her own single-life fantasy while off on vacation in this comedy from Bobby and Peter Farrelly (There's Something About Mary, Dumb and Dumber).

I Am Number Four

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:35
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:35
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon thru Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Alex Pettyfer, Timothy Olyphant
Science Fiction • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
A teenage fugitive with an incredible secret races to stay one step ahead of the mysterious forces seeking to track and destroy him in this sci-fi action thriller from director D.J. Caruso (Disturbia, Eagle Eye). With three dead and one on the run, the race to find the elusive Number Four begins. Outwardly normal teen John Smith (Alex Pettyfer) never gets too comfortable in the same identity, and along with his guardian, Henri (Timothy Olyphant), he is constantly moving from town to town – the perpetual new kid in a series of strangely familiar schools.

Unknown

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:55
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:55
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Mon thru Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Liam Neeson, Diane Kruger
Thriller • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
A man (Liam Neeson) wakes up from a coma while on a business trip to Europe only to find that some other man has taken his identity and stepped into his life. Diane Kruger and January Jones co-star.

Big Momma's Like Father Like Son

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:40
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:40
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Mon thru Thurs		4:20	7:20	

Martin Lawrence, Brandon T. Jackson
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Just Go With It

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:50
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:50
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon thru Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Jenniffer Aniston, Adam Sandler
Comedy • Rated PG 13

Gnomeo and Juliet

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Tueday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon thru Thurs		4:00	7:00	

James McAvoy, Emily Blunt
Musical, Children's/family • Rated G

Justin Bieber: Never Say Never

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:45
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:45
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon thru Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Justin Bieber
Musical • Rated G

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Lindsay Lohan: Hoping for an on-screen comeback

NEW YORK (AP)—Lindsay Lohan says she wants to be identified with great films in the future, not the personal problems that have stalled her career in recent years.

"I don't want that to be what I'm known for anymore—the tabloid stuff," she said Tuesday on the syndicated magazine show "Extra."

The troubled starlet acknowledged that her comeback won't be easy.

"There's going to be a lot of steps that I have to go through to kind of prove myself again," she said. In the latest of her off-screen woes, Lohan is charged with the theft of a $2,500 necklace from an upscale jewelry store.

She has pleaded not guilty to that felony charge, which she did not discuss in the interview.

In this Feb. 9, 2011 file photo, actress Lindsay Lohan appears in court during her arraignment on a felony grand theft charge at the LAX Airport Courthouse in Los Angeles.

AP

Bristol Palin has book deal

NEW YORK (AP)—It's official: Bristol Palin has a book deal.

The daughter of former Alaska governor Sarah Palin has signed with William Morrow to publish "Not Afraid of Life," to come out this summer. Morrow, an imprint of HarperCollins, announced Tuesday that the memoir would provide "an inside look at her life."

"Bristol gives readers an intimate behind-the-scenes look at her life for the first time, from growing up in Alaska to coming of age amid the media and political frenzy surrounding her mother's political rise; from becoming a single mother while still a teenager to coping as her relationship with her baby's father crumbled publicly—not once, but twice," according to Morrow.

A listing for the book briefly appeared last month on Amazon.com and on an online HarperCollins spreadsheet. HarperCollins has published two best-sellers by Sarah Palin, the Republican vice presidential candidate in 2008: "Going Rogue" and "America by Heart."

Bristol Palin, 20, has become a celebrity in her own right, through her broken relationship with her child's father, Levi Johnston, and through her time as a contestant on "Dancing With the Stars."

"Bristol talks about the highs and lows of her appearance on ABC-TV's 'Dancing With the Stars,' including the aching hours of practice, the biting criticisms, and the thrill of getting to the show's finals," Morrow announced. "She speaks candidly of her aspirations for the future and the deep religious faith that gives her strength and inspiration.

"Plainspoken and disarmingly down to earth, Bristol offers new insight and understanding of who she is and what she values most."

Morrow did not disclose how much Palin will be paid in the book deal.

BEP's apl.de.ap launches school projects in PH

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Black Eyed Peas band member apl.de.ap has launched school projects in his Philippines hometown that aim to increase literacy and develop the musical talents of young Filipinos.

Organizers say the singer opened Wednesday a library, a computer room and a music room in Sapang Bato National High School and a music library and studio in Holy Angel University. The rapper, whose real name is Allan Pineda Lindo Jr., attended both schools in northern Angeles city before he was adopted at 14 and moved to the United States.

The singer has been appointed special ambassador to education by the Ninoy and Cory Aquino Foundation named after two of the Philippines' democracy icons. The school projects are funded by various charities and business groups.

Officials: Harmful bacteria found at Playboy Mansion

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bacteria that cause Legionnaires' disease were found at the Playboy Mansion during an investigation into an illness that affected about 200 people who attended an event there last month, a health official said Tuesday.

Other infection sources have not been ruled out as the cause of the illness because the bacteria Legionella is common in moist places, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health director Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding said.

"We are still considering several possible causes of illness," Fielding said in a prepared statement.

County health officials opened an investigation Feb. 11 after attendees of an Internet conference reported symptoms mostly consisting of fever, chills, malaise and coughing.

Playboy did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

The DOMAINfest Global Conference took place Feb. 1-3 with events at several hotels and a fundraiser at the Holmby Hills estate where Playboy founder Hugh Hefner resides.

Health officials have not ordered occupants to leave the mansion.

About 700 people from 30 countries attended lectures and workshops at the conference. The county is investigating the outbreak with state and federal health officials to track illness outside Los Angeles.

Health officials declined comment on where the bacteria were discovered at the mansion, calling it only a water source. That could mean anywhere from a kitchen tap to the famed grotto, where Playboy bunnies have mingled with guests in a hot tub.

Cousin's dyspeptic wife spoils family festivals

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DearAbby

DEAR ABBY: Every year for the last six years, I have hosted a family gathering at my home. Each and every year, my cousin's wife "Jodie" does everything possible to ensure that we all know she's upset about something. She'll sit on my couch as far removed from the family as possible, grumbling under her breath to her husband. Jodie never says more than four words to me (the hostess) the entire time—none of which are "thank you"—then she feigns food poisoning! (No one else gets sick.)

This has been going on longer than the six years I have hosted this event. My question is, would it be tactless of me to ask my cousin to leave his wife home next year? I am not the only family member who is disgusted with Jodie's behavior. I think we'd all have a better time if she wasn't there. Would that be wrong of me?

SICK OF CODDLING HER IN ILLINOIS

DEAR SICK: For a person to repeatedly act the way you have described is not normal behavior. Your cousin's wife may suffer from some significant emotional problems. Is no one in your family close enough to your cousin to express concern about it?

While it would, indeed, be tactless to tell him to leave his wife home instead of bringing her to a family gathering, it might be less so to mention gently that you have noticed she doesn't enjoy herself when she visits—and that her attendance isn't compulsory. Then listen to what he has to say because it may be enlightening.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: My sister "Blanche" has always depended on men to support her. She was married briefly, and after her divorce started going from one man to another. I can't count how many relationships she has been in. Her children are grown, but when they were young they had to endure their mother's lifestyle.

Blanche has just moved in with another man. She's 45, and has no job or money, but has gotten good at selling her pity story. Unfortunately, her new boyfriend, "Stanley," is an old friend of mine. Although we haven't been in contact for years, I'm concerned about his dating my sister. He's going through some hard times due to the loss of a family member. Blanche homed in on this and moved in with him to "help him grieve."

Abby, I know the damage my sister can cause. It never turns out pretty. She uses people to get what she wants, then if it turns sour, she becomes a stalker. She has refused my recommendations for counseling. I feel obligated to let Stanley's family know about Blanche's history. She's trying to prevent me from contacting him because she doesn't want her past revealed. What do you suggest?

FEARFUL SIS IN MISSOURI

DEAR FEARFUL SIS: I strongly recommend that rather than telling Stanley's family your sister's history, you tell Stanley directly. To do otherwise would be interpreted as an underhanded attempt to break up his romance, would not be appreciated, and could only bring them closer.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Help! If one spouse snores, the other can't sleep. Please print some solutions to this problem that have worked for your readers. We sleep in separate beds almost every night.

SEEKING SLUMBER IN SANTA BARBARA

DEAR SEEKING SLUMBER: When one spouse snores so loudly that it keeps the other awake, it could be a symptom of a serious medical problem. While my readers may be kind enough to offer home remedies, my advice is that the snorer should consult his or her physician to find out what's causing it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby – Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Bono to see 'Spider-Man' as speculation grows

NEW YORK (AP)—U2's Bono is expected to attend Tuesday night's performance of "Spider-Man: Turn Off the Dark" as speculation swirls over whether the troubled Broadway show's opening night will be delayed again. Bono, who wrote the music and lyrics with bandmate The Edge, hasn't been able to critique the show since he stopped in to check on its progress in mid-January. The $65 million show has been delayed five times and is supposed to open on March 15. Despite its woes, it is among the highest earners each week on Broadway. Rick Miramontez, a show spokesman, said Tuesday that any decision about the future of "Spider-Man" would include producers and the creative team, led by director Julie Taymor. Says Miramontez: "All decisions are made as a group."

NY concert to honor Judy Garland is family affair

NEW YORK (AP)—Judy Garland's daughter will join Ashley Brown, Heather Headley and Karen Olivo later this month to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Garland's 1961 concert at Carnegie Hall. Lorna Luft, who was on the original cast of "Promises, Promises," will lend her pipes to the song-for-song re-creation of her mother's concert. It featured performances of "Over the Rainbow," "The Trolley Song" and "The Man That Got Away." The March 11 concert will be held at Carnegie Hall with music by The New York Pops, under the baton of Steven Reineke. Garland's original performance was recorded and received five Grammy Awards, including album of the year. Olivo starred in "West Side Story" and "In the Heights," Headley was in "Aida" and "The Lion King," and Brown was Broadway's original "Mary Poppins." Garland died in 1969.

Wallis Simpson's lingerie, handbags up for auction

LONDON (AP)—Lingerie, handbags and luggage once owned by Wallis Simpson, the American divorcee who shook the British monarchy, are due to be auctioned off in London. Kerry Taylor Auctioneers says that items due to be put up for sale include a scarlet chiffon nightdress, complete with a full length cape, and a 1960s Louis Vuitton vanity case. The auction is set for March 17. Next week's sale could be quite lucrative, if previous auctions of Simpson's possessions are anything to go by. A set of jewels once owned by the socialite fetched nearly 8 million pounds ($13 million) at auction when they were sold by Sotheby's two months ago.

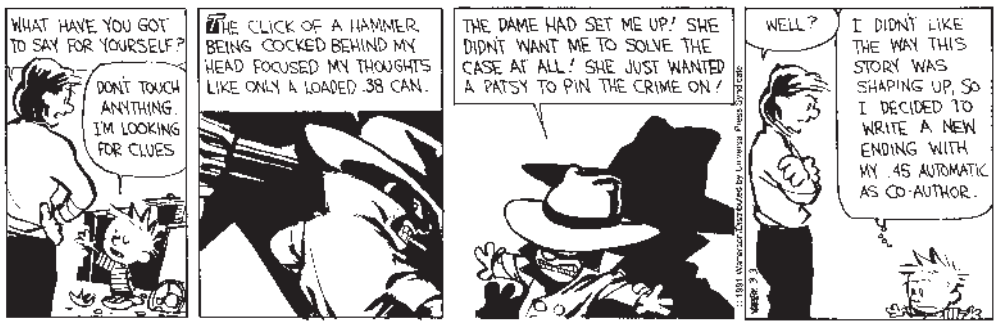
Prince sued by NY law firm for $700K in legal fees

NEW YORK (AP)—A New York City law firm says Prince owes more than $700,000 in legal fees for services that included helping to settle financial obligations to his former wife. The firm is suing the "Purple Rain" singer in state Supreme Court in Manhattan. Patterson Belknap Webb & Tyler says in a lawsuit filed Tuesday the musician failed to pay it for handling cases in Ireland, California and New York. The law firm also says it wasn't paid for representing him in his divorce. It says he has paid $125,000. A telephone call to Prince's Paisley Park Enterprises Inc. in Minnesota went unanswered Tuesday night. The 52-year-old singer is best known for 1980s hits such as "When Doves Cry" and "1999." His full name is Prince Rogers Nelson.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


WHAT HAVE YOU GOT TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?
DON'T TOUCH ANYTHING. I'M LOOKING FOR CLUES
THE CLICK OF A HAMMER BEING COCKED BEHIND MY HEAD FOCUSED MY THOUGHTS LIKE ONLY A LOADED .38 CAN.
THE DAME HAD SET ME UP! SHE DIDN'T WANT ME TO SOLVE THE CASE AT ALL! SHE JUST WANTED A PATSY TO PIN THE CRIME ON!
WELL?
I DIDN'T LIKE THE WAY THIS STORY WAS SHAPING UP, SO I DECIDED TO WRITE A NEW ENDING WITH MY .45 AUTOMATIC AS CO-AUTHOR.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

"DEAR ASK A DOG"...
"IS IT TRUE YOU BECAME MAN'S BEST FRIEND BY BRIBING SOMEBODY?" SIGNED, "A CAT SITTING NEXT TO YOU"
OH, LOOK. HE KEPT THE RECEIPT
JIM DAVIS 3-3

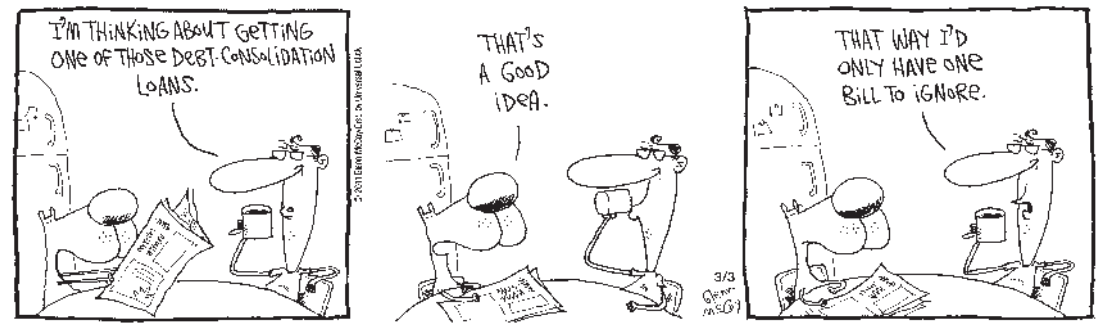
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

OKAY. OUTSIDE JACK THE BARBER'S HOUSE. HA. HE DRIVES A SEVILLE.
MUST WORK SILENTLY. NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE TOOLS OF MY TRADE.
JACK THE BARBER. PREPARE TO BE TRIMMED.
3-3

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


I'M THINKING ABOUT GETTING ONE OF THOSE DEBT-CONSOLIDATION LOANS.
THAT'S A GOOD IDEA.
THAT WAY I'D ONLY HAVE ONE BILL TO IGNORE.
3/3

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

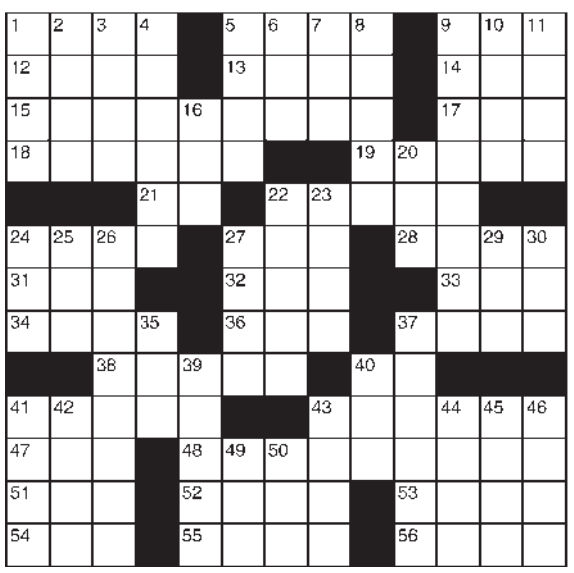
ACROSS
1 Recipe meas.
5 Con game
9 "Wham!"
12 Brewery products
13 Albacore
14 Mimic
15 Ambulance VIP
17 Scarlet
18 Hello, in Haifa
19 Coin toss call
21 KC's state
22 Tine
24 Boston — Orchestra
27 1989 GM debut
28 Burr-Hamilton contest
31 Actress Gardner
32 Conger, for one
33 Exist
34 Imperfection
36 Rd.
37 "— Breckinridge"
38 Cognizant
40 Italian river
41 Man of morals?
43 Half-hour telecast, often
47 Monokini's lack
48 Type of baggy pants
51 Inventor Whitney
52 Falsehoods
53 Great Lake
54 Benicio — Toro
55 Energy units
56 Remainder

DOWN
1 Reveille's opposite
2 Mediocre
3 Antitoxins
4 Book after Job
5 Goblet part
6 What a cow chews
7 Blackbird
8 Overly virile
9 South American country
10 Newspaper page
11 Marries
16 Cattle call?
20 Conclusion
22 Grievance
23 Portrayal
24 Manhandle
25 Eggs
26 Soar behind a motorboat
27 Equipment
29 Bobble the ball
30 Grazing area
35 Pair
37 "Psycho" figure
39 Mac maker
40 Snapshot
41 Not up yet
42 — Stanley Gardner
43 Back talk
44 Remedy
45 Singer Redding
46 Encounter
49 Melody
50 Bylaw, for short

Solution time: 25 mins.

A	S	K	S	■	C	B	S	■	E	G	A	D
U	T	A	H	■	H	E	W	■	S	A	M	E
K	E	Y	L	A	R	G	O	■	C	R	A	W
S	P	F	F	D	O	■	R	O	U	G	H	Y
■	■	■	P	A	N	■	D	O	D	O	■	■
P	I	A	■	R	I	M	■	H	O	Y	L	E
A	F	R	O	■	C	A	B	■	S	L	U	R
S	I	G	N	S	■	D	I	P	■	E	G	G
■	■	O	W	E	S	■	F	A	B	■	■	■
I	E	N	A	N	I	■	O	P	I	A	I	E
A	L	A	R	■	E	S	C	A	R	G	O	T
M	A	U	D	■	A	K	A	■	C	R	O	C
A	N	T	S	■	M	I	L	■	H	A	T	H

Yesterday's answer 3-3



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Biel, 29; Julie Bowen, 41; Jackie Joyner-Kersee, 49; Herschel Walker, 49

Happy Birthday: Keep things straight and write down important information. However, don't let your feelings for someone deceive you into thinking you can change others. Facing your emotional fears will be a must if you want to satisfy your dreams, hopes and wishes for the future. An honest assessment will bring the best results. Your numbers are 7, 9, 18, 20, 31, 37, 48

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Hesitation will not help you choose correctly. Feel it in your heart and base what you need to do on intuition, and the right door will open. Deal with partners, institutions and agencies that can affect your life. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): People who have information you want may need a gentle push but, once you get the ball rolling, it will be easy to gain momentum. Don't let your emotions cloud your vision. ✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): You'll be walking a fine line with regard to work, overspending and dealing with people you owe or who owe you. Follow your instincts but keep whatever you do a secret for now. If you have reservations, back away from the situation. ✪✪✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): You can be the star by taking action. Everything you touch will turn out well. Making changes that influence others beneficially will put you in control. Do something to improve your appearance or your love life. ✪✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Don't brag about what you have. The way to make others take note of who you are and what you have is through gracious and humble offerings. By allowing others dignity, you will gain respect and attract a romantic suggestion that you cannot refuse. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Keep things tight between you and a partner. Letting too many people in on your plans or secrets will lead to obstacles. Don't be afraid to make unexpected and sudden changes and decisions. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Fix up your residence or size up or down in order to achieve greater comfort or to accommodate a changing lifestyle. Follow your intuition when it comes to relationships. Greater opportunity will come through personal or professional partnerships. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Take better care of your health and emotional well-being. Focus on home, family and getting things in order so you can get on with your life. A change that occurs will be beneficial in days to come. ✪✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You may think you have everything and everyone under control but, when you least expect it, someone will surprise you with a complicated and stressful situation. Acting fast is not the solution, especially if your concern involves a friend, relative or neighbor. ✪✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Too much pressure will lead to trouble. Make sure you have a clear picture of what's going on before you take sides. Back away from a personal situation and put more effort into your work. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Emotional deception is apparent. Private affairs must be kept that way or you will be caught in the middle of a melodrama. You can help a friend but don't take on burdens that aren't yours. Protect your assets and don't meddle. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Take on as much as you can and show everyone what you can do. Push for what you want and be relentless when it comes to dealing with slackers or people who talk big and do little. Good fortune can be yours with the right partner. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are sentimental, caring and will go out of your way to please. You are energetic, strong-willed and persistent.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8								3
7				2				1
			8	5	3			
		3		4		1		
	2	1				6	4	
		9		1		8		
			7	3	5			
3				9				2
1								6

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/03

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

2	4	7	5	9	1	3	8	6
3	1	9	8	7	6	4	5	2
5	8	6	4	2	3	7	9	1
7	5	8	6	3	9	2	1	4
4	9	2	1	5	7	6	3	8
1	6	3	2	8	4	9	7	5
8	3	5	9	6	2	1	4	7
9	2	1	7	4	8	5	6	3
6	7	4	3	1	5	8	2	9

Difficulty Level ★★★ 3/2

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BILLY THE KID Solution: 8 letters

J	T	Y	D	N	L	O	C	N	I	L	A	D	Y	A
A	G	N	T	H	D	E	M	A	O	R	E	R	M	E
I	A	A	E	U	I	T	A	E	N	F	O	B	M	T
L	W	R	M	U	P	S	R	F	E	T	I	I	E	Y
H	A	R	S	B	L	E	P	N	C	D	R	E	N	R
O	L	E	D	E	L	F	D	A	E	C	N	I	A	Y
U	T	S	R	I	P	E	F	X	N	A	D	I	M	E
S	U	T	A	U	R	A	T	F	G	I	G	G	S	N
E	O	B	U	I	D	R	C	E	I	A	C	A	K	N
T	L	R	G	E	O	Y	R	S	R	R	N	L	R	O
E	O	A	T	U	R	U	A	R	E	O	E	G	A	B
I	Y	N	S	N	T	L	E	W	Z	G	I	H	(M)	R
V	A	C	E	P	O	T	A	I	E	R	E	(Y)	S	A
W	L	H	A	O	T	R	R	N	L	I	(T)	H	E	V
R	E	C	N	A	D	A	D	S	T	(H)	E	F	T	E

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Ambidextrous, Antrim, Arizona, Army, Arrest, Bonney, Brave, Capture, Crime, Dancer, Defender, Deputy, Dime, Escape, Factory, Fluent, Gamble, Garrett, Girls, Guards, Henry, Hispanic, Jailhouse, Land, Legend, Lincoln, Lithe, Loyal, Marksman, Myth, Neat, Outlaw, Ranch, Rebel, Reliable, Reward, Roamed, Saloon, Sheriff, Teenage, Theft, Wanted

Yesterday's Answer: On Air

The NEW Threasury of Wonderword Puzzles collects 150 puzzles for only $10.95 each plus $2.25 postage and handling each (CA: 20¢ sales tax; US funds only) for the first one. Send to: Universal Uclick, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-4100. Order online at puzzles.com (enter 'Wonderword' in the search box).

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As Lito-4 BR, 2 1/2 bath house for rent. Unfurnished and utilities not included. Call 788-7109 for more information.

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WHATZIT Solution:
Without a backward glance

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

JAVILI GENERAL PARTNERSHIP, Plaintiff, -v- DONG MIN JIN and SHUN YU JIANG, Defendants.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0283 SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANTS:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is served upon you hereby, within twenty (20) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of our answer to the LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

By order of the above Court:

/s/ Clerk of Court

Dated this 07th day of FEBRUARY. 2011.

WANTED

1 BARTENDER

MUST BE WELL EXPERIENCED
Contact Business Office **ASAP** at 233-0666 (8am-5pm)
or, WILMA at 233-1666 (5pm-10pm)
VERDE, INC. dba Abyss Fisherman's Bar & Restaurant

FOR SALE

Anaks Ocean View Hill Saipan

Owner is selling two, 2BR 1Bth living & separate kitchen, resort style residential units. Drinkable tap water, in house emergency generator, spacious swimming pool, 24 hours guarded security. Currently the units are let, perfect for cash flow investment. $120,000 or better offer. For more details, send your inquiry to anaks@pticom.com

General Accountant

JOB REQUIREMENTS:

- Two to three years experience in the field with a proven satisfactory record.
- Bachelor's Degree or higher education in Accounting
- Excellent computer skills, particularly with MS Office – Excel, Word, PowerPoint.
- Accounting Software knowledge particularly Quick-Books is required.
- Experience in taxation, accounting functions, analytical in accounting information
- Some HR/Payroll Background helpful.
- Strong organizational skills with the ability to multitask and can work independently.
- Able to effectively communicate with all levels of personnel.
- Good command of the English language in verbal and written form.

POSITION SUMMARY

This position will assist in managing all aspects of the Accounting and Finance process including preparing end of the month financial statements, general ledger reconciliations, bank reconciliations, tax preparations. In addition, this position will also assist in handling all company accounting transactions, including general ledger maintenance receivables & payables, invoicing control, accounts analysis, developing & enforcing financial procedures and controls, managing and reducing costs, etc.

This position is in urgent hiring status; all potential applicants, please respond and email cvpalijo@hotmail.com or fax your resume to (670)322-4900.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

GLANCE

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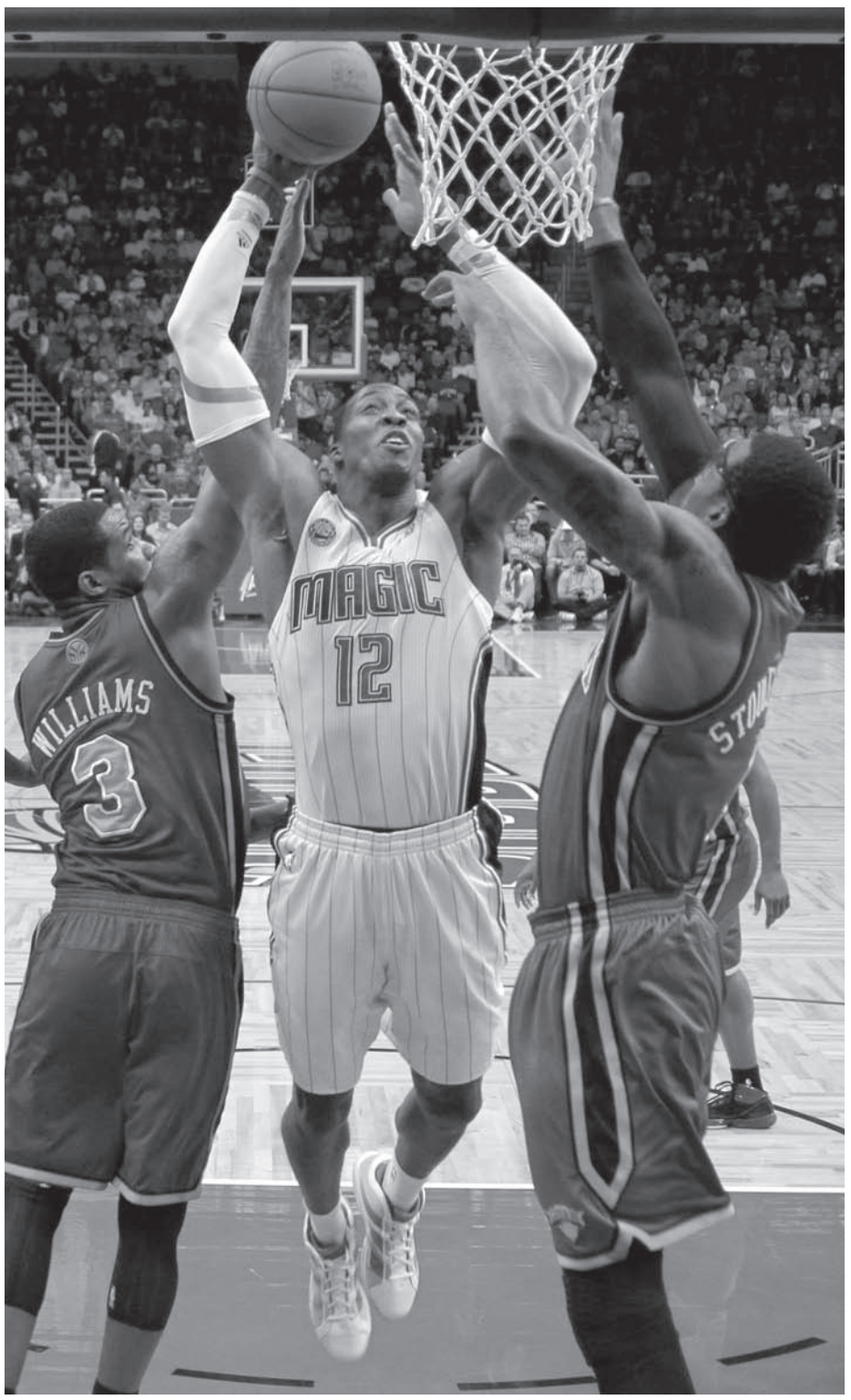
Find today's solution in this section

Howard has 30 to lead Magic past Knicks



AP

Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard (12) goes up for shot between New York Knicks' Shawne Williams (3) and Amare Stoudemire, right, during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Orlando, Fla., Tuesday, March 1, 2011.

ORLANDO, Florida (AP)—Dwight Howard had 30 points and 16 rebounds and Jameer Nelson scored 23 of his 26 points in the second half as the Orlando Magic outlasted the New York Knicks 116-110 on Tuesday night.

The Magic trailed 58-47 at halftime, but surged in the second half as the Knicks struggled from the field.

The win was the Magic's third straight and fifth in six games. It was also Orlando's second win this season over the Knicks, who host the Magic twice before the end of the month.

New York fell to two wins and two losses since acquiring All-Star Carmelo Anthony and Chauncey Billups. The Knicks finished 1-1 on the Florida swing, following its win over Miami on Sunday.

Amare Stoudemire and Billups led New York with 30 points apiece, followed by Anthony with 25.

Mavericks 101, 76ers 93

At Philadelphia, Jason Terry scored 30 points, Jason Kidd had a triple-double, and Dallas won its seventh straight game.

Dirk Nowitzki added 22 points for the Mavericks, who have won a whopping 17 of 18 games to move into second place in the Western Conference.

Terry used near-flawless shooting over the second and third quarters to give the Mavs the lead, then sealed the win late in the fourth with a dunk where he waved his arms in celebration.

Kidd had 13 points, 13 assists, 10 rebounds and no turnovers.

Lakers 90, Timberwolves 79

At Minneapolis, Pau Gasol, Andrew Bynum and the Lakers' towering front line overwhelmed Kevin Love on the boards in a victory over Minnesota.

Gasol had 17 rebounds and 12 points, Bynum had 14 points and seven boards and the Lakers scored 28 second-chance points to overcome a poor shooting night and win their fifth straight game.

Wes Johnson had 20 points and eight rebounds for the Timberwolves, who led for much of the first three quarters before the Lakers asserted themselves.

Love had 13 points and 11 rebounds, his 47th straight double-double. The last time he did not have one was against the Lakers on Nov. 19. But he was just 2 for 10 from the floor and barely kept the longest double-double streak since 1980 alive.

Kobe Bryant scored 24 points, but made just 8 of 18 shots in an ugly offensive game for both teams.

Grizzlies 109, Spurs 93

At Memphis, Darrell Arthur and Zach Randolph each scored 21 points and Memphis took advantage of San Antonio's poor ball handling.

Tony Allen added 20 points, missing only one of his nine shots, and Mike Conley had 18 points and nine assists as Memphis won its season-best fifth straight home game.

Gary Neal was the only Spur to finish in double figures with 14 points. Starters Tim Duncan, Manu Ginobili and DeJuan Blair had nine points apiece, as they sat out the fourth quarter.

The Spurs (49-11) were playing their first game without starting point guard Tony Parker, who is expected to miss two to four weeks after straining his left calf when the Spurs beat Memphis on Saturday.

Pacers 109, Warriors 100

At Indianapolis, Danny Granger scored 27 points, hitting all 16 free throws, as Indiana held off Golden State.

Darren Collison scored 11 points for Indiana, eight in the third quarter, when the Pacers outscored Golden State 37-26 to turn a three-point deficit into a nine-point lead.

Reggie Williams had 25 points off the bench for Golden State, which rallied from a double-digit, first-half deficit to lead by nine points late in the second quarter before faltering.

Raptors 96, Hornets 90

At Toronto, Jose Calderon had 22 points and 16 assists, while DeMar DeRozan scored 17 points as Toronto beat New Orleans for just its fourth win in 24 games.

Returning to the lineup after missing Sunday's loss to Dallas with flulike symptoms, Andrea Bargnani scored 14 points for Toronto, which also got 14 from Sonny Weems and 13 from James Johnson.

David West scored 19 points and former Raptor Jarrett Jack had 17, but the Hornets lost for the ninth time in 12 games.

It was another difficult night for Hornets point guard Chris Paul, who made just three of 10 shots and finished with seven points, five assists and four rebounds.

Bucks 92, Pistons 90

At Milwaukee, Brandon Jennings scored 21 points, making the clinching free throws with 5.9 seconds left and leading Milwaukee over Detroit.

Detroit's Richard Hamilton emerged from coach John Kuester's doghouse to score 10 points in 26 minutes off the bench, but missed his first four shots and his final eight attempts.

Milwaukee won for only the third time in nine games despite having its top frontcourt players on the bench due to injury and illness. The Pistons have lost seven of nine.

Rodney Stuckey scored 25 points and Greg Monroe added 13 for Detroit.

Carlos Delfino had 16 points and a season-high 10 rebounds for Milwaukee.

Rockets 103, Trail Blazers 87

At Portland, Ore., Kyle Lowry had 21 points and 11 assists, and the Houston Rockets won their fifth straight with a victory over the Portland Trail Blazers.

Luis Scola added 21 points and Kevin Martin had 20 for Houston, which snapped a four-game losing streak at the Rose Garden and reached .500 at 31-31.

Portland leading scorer LaMarcus Aldridge was held to 14 points, well off his average of 22.4. Nicolas Batum led the Blazers with 22 points.

The Rockets, coming off a 91-89 victory over New Orleans on Sunday, led by as many as 19 points after Lowry's jumper made it 87-68 early in the fourth quarter and Portland fans started heading for the exits.

NBA BRIEFS

Heat part with Arroyo, clearing spot for Bibby

MIAMI (AP)—LeBron James spoke with Mike Bibby after a game last week, and the NBA's two-time reigning MVP is keeping the exact details of that chat private. This much is known: It was a recruiting pitch. "I gave him the eye," James said. "And I guess the eye worked." By Wednesday night, James and the Heat will be able to say that with certainty. The Heat cleared a roster spot Tuesday by parting ways with Carlos Arroyo, and although the team made no formal pronouncements because of NBA rules, several players—James, Dwyane Wade and Mario Chalmers among them—said they will have Bibby aboard soon. Bibby is expected to be in South Florida on Wednesday, will likely participate in Thursday morning's shootaround practice and should be in uniform when the Heat play the Orlando Magic that night. "I think it's a big thing for us," said Heat guard Eddie House, Bibby's brother-in-law. "He's going to do a lot of things that can help LeBron, Dwyane and everyone else around here." Miami announced the Arroyo move in time for the veteran guard to sign with another team and be eligible for its postseason roster. "This was a very difficult decision to make because Carlos has done a great job for this team and this organization," Heat President Pat Riley said. "He is truly a first class individual and professional. We wish him nothing but the best." Bibby was traded by Atlanta to Washington last week. He was in Miami on Friday for his first—and ultimately, next-to-last—game with the Wizards, saying he was aware of buyout rumblings but did not know what the future held.

Thunder sign Kendrick Perkins to contract deal

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP)—Before even playing a game with the Oklahoma City Thunder, center Kendrick Perkins signed an extension Tuesday to stay with his new team for a while. Perkins joined the Thunder five days ago in a trade with Boston, where he spent the first seven years of his career and won the 2008 NBA title. Now, he's due to make about $36 million while staying in Oklahoma City through the 2014-15 season. "It kind of felt like the worst day of my life when I got traded from the Cs, from being there so long. But when I got here, it kind of took my mind away from everything, I think, and everything just kind of blew me away," Perkins said after practice Tuesday. "It was kind of the worst but best day." Perkins said he was attracted to stay in Oklahoma City because of similarities he sees to his Texas hometown and by his first impressions of the Thunder as a "first-class" organization. He would have become an unrestricted free agent at the end of the season, but said he didn't "want to take anything for granted." "I'm a country boy. I'm from Beaumont, Texas. I don't think it's really hard to please me," Perkins said. "I didn't really have just a crazy number in mind. We met, we came to an agreement, that's the most important thing." Perkins was acquired along with Nate Robinson in exchange for Jeff Green, Nenad Krstic and a future first-round pick in a deal completed at the league's trade deadline Thursday. He played in 12 games for Boston after returning from a knee injury he sustained in Game 6 of the NBA finals, but is expected to miss as much as three weeks with a left knee sprain

Hamilton to play after missing 10 games

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Richard Hamilton, who has been in a dispute with the Detroit Pistons, will play against the Milwaukee Bucks on Tuesday night. Coach John Kuester said Hamilton will get his first game action after missing 10 consecutive games. He last played Feb. 5 in a game that also was in Milwaukee. Kuester said he told the team all starting spots are open and will be determined by how each player practices. "I opened up all the positions," he said. "I said, 'Listen, anybody that wants to work hard, this is the group we're going to go with.' "We had a number of guys working hard and Rip was one of them," he said. Kuester said Tayshaun Prince would miss the game with a back injury, but Hamilton would play. "Everybody else that's dressed has to be ready to go," he said. Hamilton declined comment before the game.

Knicks sign Jeffries, claim Brown, waive Brewer

NEW YORK (AP)—The New York Knicks brought back forward Jared Jeffries and claimed forward Derrick Brown off waivers Tuesday, adding some size for the stretch run. To make room, the Knicks parted ways with forward Corey Brewer, a day after waiving guard Kelenna Azubuike. The 6-foot-11 Jeffries originally signed with the Knicks on Aug. 8, 2006, and played for the team until he was traded to the Houston Rockets last season at the trade deadline. The Knicks value Jeffries for his ability to defend anyone from big men to point guards, and moved quickly to sign him once he cleared waivers after being bought out by the Rockets last week. He is expected to be in uniform when New York hosts New Orleans on Wednesday. Brown was waived by Charlotte last Thursday. The 6-8 forward averaged 3.4 points in 10.4 minutes per game over two seasons with Charlotte after being taken with the No. 40 pick in the 2009 draft. Brewer didn't appear in a game for the Knicks after he was acquired from Minnesota in the three-team, Carmelo Anthony trade. The former lottery pick from Florida will have a chance to sign on with another contender.

Barry Bonds' perjury trial taking shape

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— Barry Bonds' former personal trainer is facing prison and a judge admitted a trove of evidence while the admissibility of still more hangs in the balance after a pivotal hearing in federal court Tuesday, three weeks before the slugger's trial is scheduled to start.

Bonds also renewed his not guilty plea, which was made necessary when prosecutors revised the charges for the third time since the initial indictment was unsealed in November 2007. Bonds is charged with four counts of making false statements to a grand jury and one count of obstruction of justice. There was little doubt what Bonds' plea was going to be Tuesday and that the case was going to trial March 21 after Bonds' legal team and prosecutors last month told U.S. District Judge Susan Illston that there was little chance of a plea agreement.

Likewise, there was no doubt that Bonds' former personal trainer, Greg Anderson, would tell the judge Tuesday that he has no intention of taking the stand as a government witness during the trial. Anderson made a similar pledge in 2009 before Bonds' trial was put on hold until a government appeal was resolved in Bonds' favor.

Anderson has previously spent more than a year in prison on contempt charges after refusing to testify before the grand jury investigating Bonds.

Barry Bonds, center, leaves a federal courthouse in San Francisco, Tuesday, March 1, 2011. AP

The judge said that prosecutors and Bonds' legal team both want Anderson to testify. She said his testimony would spare his former clients, including several retired major league players, from being called to the witness stand to discuss how he supplied them with steroids. Assistant U.S. Attorney Jeff Ned row said he wants to use that evidence to support their position that Bonds was lying when he claimed "he was unwittingly duped by Mr. Anderson" into believing he was taking legal supplements.

"Much of that testimony would be unnecessary" if he testified, Illston told Anderson.

Illston then told Anderson that she planned to find him in contempt of court and will order him jailed during the duration of the trial, which is expected to last at least two weeks. Anderson simply nodded his head when the judge asked if he intended to follow through on his vow of silence.

"He's taking not testifying to the nth degree," said Mark Geragos, Anderson's attorney.

Illston ordered Anderson to return to court March 22, when she plans to order him jailed.

After Anderson left the courtroom, the lawyers got down to highly technical arguments over what evidence will be presented to the jury.

The judge ruled that the jury may hear, among other pieces of evidence:

■ That prosecutors granted Bonds immunity from prosecution as long he testified truthfully about his drug use before the grand jury.

■ Bonds' former personal shopper, Cathy Hoskins, testifying about Bonds' relationship with a Playboy model.

■ Bonds' personal surgeon, Dr. Arthur Ting, and former girlfriend Kim Bell testifying that Bonds mistreated them, including Bell allegedly witnessing violent outbursts.

But the admissibility of other evidence must still be determined.

Bonds attorney Cris Arguedas objected to Bell telling the jury about an incident where Bonds allegedly grabbed her by the throat and threatened her life. Arguedas denied the incident occurred, but argued that even if it did happen, such testimony would unfairly bias the jury against Bonds.

"It's an act of domestic violence," Arguedas said. "It has an incendiary effect on the jury."

Ted Cassman, another Bonds attorney, objected to Bell testifying that she witnessed Bonds' testicles shrink during their time together. He said that such an allegation is difficult to prove scientifically and would bring an unnecessary "circus-like" atmosphere to the trial.

Illston didn't respond in court to the latest objections and will issue a written ruling later.

Each count against Bonds carries a potential sentence of 10 years in prison. However, federal sentencing guidelines for a first offense on these charges generally call for a total sentence of 15 to 21 months.

NFL labor deadline nears; union wins in court

WASHINGTON (AP)—With time running out on the NFL's labor contract, one team owner—the New York Giants' John Mara—joined mediated negotiations between the league and players Tuesday, and the union won a key court ruling about TV contract money.

The sides met for six hours Tuesday. NFL Players Association executive director DeMaurice Smith and his group left shortly before 8 p.m.—52 hours before the current collective bargaining agreement expires.

Mara, the first owner to attend the federal mediation; Atlanta Falcons president Rich McKay, chairman of the league's competition committee; and Washington Redskins general manager Bruce Allen were among those accompanying NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell for the eighth day of bargaining overseen by George Cohen. He is the director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, a U.S. government agency.

"I don't think you could have a greater sense of urgency," Jeff Pash, the league's lead labor negotiator, said on his way into the meeting. "We all know what the calendar is, and we all know what's at stake for everybody. And that's why we're here. We're going to be here as long as it takes and work as hard as we can work to get something done."

Afterward, in keeping with Cohen's order to stay silent on the mediation, neither the NFL nor the union would discuss whether they fared any better Tuesday than they did during more than 40 hours of meetings spread across seven previous days of mediation. When that round ended Thursday, Cohen said the parties still had "very strong differences" on the "all-important core issues."

Mediation will resume Wednesday, when union president Kevin Mawae is expected to be in Washington. He has yet to sit in on this round of talks.

The CBA runs out at midnight as Thursday becomes Friday on the East Coast, and the owners could lock out the players afterward. The union could also decertify—essentially, declare itself out of the business of representing players. The players would then give up their rights under labor law and take their chances in court under antitrust law.

Whatever happens this week could cause the country's most popular sport to lose regular-season games to a work stoppage for the first time since 1987. Or, perhaps, everything could be resolved by management and labor in an industry with revenues topping $9 billion annually.

Buffalo Bills safety George Wilson—who's not involved in the negotiations but is getting updates from the union as his team's NFLPA representative—doesn't expect a new deal by the deadline.

"Everything I'm telling my guys is: Prepare this Friday for the start of a lockout," Wilson said. "I certainly don't believe a deal will be reached by Thursday midnight. That's what I feel in my heart. I have not received any indication (from the union) that we're close to a deal."

In a ruling Tuesday that could have a significant bearing on the talks, U.S. District Court judge David Doty in Minneapolis sided with the union by overruling a special master's Feb. 1 decision to reject the NFLPA's request that $4 billion in 2011 payments from networks to the league be placed in escrow if there is a lockout.

Doty, who has jurisdiction over NFL labor matters, said there will be a hearing to determine what should happen to that money. The date of the hearing wasn't announced immediately.

The NFL played down the importance of Doty's decision. The union issued a statement calling it "irrefutable evidence that owners had a premeditated plan to lock out players and fans for more than two years."

As he left Tuesday's mediation, Indianapolis Colts center Jeff Saturday called Doty's ruling a "really good reversal."

"I'm sure we'll hear more tonight," Saturday, a member of the NFLPA executive committee, told The Associated Press. "But it sounds very favorable."

The union accused the NFL of structuring TV contracts agreed to in 2009 and 2010 so owners would be guaranteed money even if there were a work stoppage in 2011 - while not getting the most revenue possible in other seasons, when income would need to be shared with players. The union argued this violated an agreement between the sides that says the NFL must make good-faith efforts to maximize revenue for players. The NFLPA also said any work stoppage clauses in TV deals guaranteed "war chest" income for the NFL, giving it an unfair advantage in labor talks.

The biggest sticking point all along has been how to divide the league's revenues, including what cut team owners should get up front to help cover certain costs, such as stadium construction. Under the old deal, owners got $1 billion off the top. They entered these negotiations seeking to double that.

Among the other significant topics: a rookie wage scale; the owners' push to expand the regular season from 16 games to 18 while reducing the preseason by two games; and benefits for retired players.

"What's the word we're using right now? 'Cautiously optimistic,'" Seattle Seahawks guard Chester Pitts said after attending the first 3 1/2 hours of Tuesday's negotiations. "We're making a point to go into it doing all we can to do things the right way, and hopefully we get a deal done."

Asked about Mara's presence, Pitts said: "He's a businessman, and businessmen like to make money. So sometimes you've got to come, make sure you're hovering around, make sure everything's being done to get a deal done. And I'm pretty sure he'll say he had that sense."

The 32 teams' owners are scheduled to meet Wednesday and Thursday at a hotel in Chantilly, Va., for updates on the status of negotiations. And then they will need to determine their next step.

In many respects, this boils down to money, of course. And there is plenty of money at risk the longer it takes for the league and NFLPA to work together again.

The league estimates there would be a cut in gross revenues of $350 million if there's no new CBA by August, before the preseason starts, and a loss of revenues totaling $1 billion if no new contract is in place until September. And if regular-season games are lost in 2011, the NFL figures that revenue losses would amount to about $400 million per week.

"Both parties are at it, full steam ahead, doing all we can to come to an agreement," Pitts said. "It's two groups doing business. The tone? None of that matters. It's business, and that's the approach, and that's the expectation. Doing all we can to get a deal done."

Pacman foe slowed by age–Salud

BOXING

When Shane Mosley was first mentioned as a possible opponent for Manny Pacquiao way back in 2009, Cebu-based promoter Rex "Wakee" Salud raised a howl.

"Huwag naman Mosley (Not Mosley, please)," Salud, one of Pacquiao's trusted adviser and confidant, told sportswriters then.

Salud's opposition, of course, was understandable.

Mosley, who weighs around 170 pounds in-between fights, was perceived to be too big, too strong for Pacquiao, whose walking weight is 150-154 lb.

Not anymore

Salud now believes, like most boxing pundits, that Pacquiao will overwhelm Mosley when they tangle for the Filipino icon's World Boxing Organization welterweight crown on May 7 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Salud even predicts that Pacquiao would win by late stoppage, something nobody has done to Mosley.

"It will be over by the eighth, ninth or 10th rounds," Salud told the Inquirer over the phone last Saturday.

Salud thinks the eight-division world champion will be too fast for Mosley, a three-time world titlist also noted for his speed and power.

Age factor

After watching Mosley's last two fights—a loss to Floyd Mayweather Jr. and a split draw with Sergio Mora last September, Salud noted that Mosley has slowed down a bit at 39.

"Age factor. He wouldn't be able to chase Manny down," Salud said in Filipino. "Manny will run rings around him and wore him down."

Still, Salud advises Pacquiao to be very careful, especially during the early stages, against Mosley, who owns a better knockout percentage than Pacquiao (46 wins, 39 KOs) against six losses one draw and one no contest. ***(PDI)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Manny Pacquiao, left, and Shane Mosley pose to promote their upcoming fight at The Lighthouse at Chelsea Piers on Feb. 14, 2011 in New York City.

HEO

From Page 28

In their doubles rematch on Feb. 27, Heo and Bader got back at their Game 1 tormentors, pulling off a thrilling 9-8 triumph. HPU added one more doubles win, courtesy of the tandem of Michnev and Matiss Libietis, and the Sea Warriors went on to notch four singles victories to complete the sweep after a 6-3 win in Game 2.

Following a doubles victory in Game 2, Heo reasserted his domination of Coffey, surviving UH-Hilo's No. 3 player in three sets. The CNMI netter won the extended opening set, 7-5, but failed to wrap up the match early after losing the second set, 4-6. In the deciding third set, the 19-year-old Heo played his A game and cruised to an easy 6-2 twin.

After sweeping UH-Hilo, HPU improved its record to 6-1. The Sea Warriors won their home game over Gustavus Adolphus College of Minnesota, 7-2, on Feb. 3 at Central Oahu Regional Park. HPU then followed it up with a commanding 9-0 victory over Dallas Baptist University at the start of the Sea Warriors four-day road game in Phoenix. Heo and company also beat Sonoma State University, and Grand Canyon University in similar scores, 5-4, but bowed to University of California San Diego, 4-5, for HPU's lone loss of the season.

Heo will have two more home games this week before his Sea Warriors start their six-day road trip in California and Nevada from March 12 to 17. HPU will host first Loyola Marymount on March 3 and Northwestern College on March 5.

Then on March 12, the Sea Warriors will begin their series of home-away games in San Diego against UC-San Diego. Heo and his teammates will stay in San Diego the next day to face No. 1 Barry University.

After their San Diego trip, the Sea Warriors will head to Las Vegas for four straight games. HPU will first play No. 8 West Florida on March 14, meet No. 3 Armstrong Atlantic on March 15, duel No. 10 Concordia on March 16, and battle Fresno Pacific on March 17.

The Sea Warriors will finish their four remaining games of the season at home later this month before competing in the NCAA National Championship in Orlando, Florida in May.

LIONS

From Page 28

single by Gary Camacho, an error and a passed ball.

Winning pitcher Justin Reyes gave up two earned runs in six and a third innings with three hits, four walks, five strikeouts, and a bean ball.

SENIOR LEAGUE
Lions 19, Heats 2

In last Saturday's Senior League game, the Tan Siu Lin-Rep. Fred DL Guerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions got right to work with five runs in the top of the first inning off just two hits. Arther Jebehn poked an RBI single and Lemarc Iguel delivered a sacrifice fly; the team as a whole stole four bases in the inning.

The Rep. Rafael Demapan Heats managed its only runs off an error and an RBI single by Vicente Cabrera in the bottom frame.

Lions pitcher Leroy Regis settled in and struck out the side to start the second and his team shot ahead, 9-0, in the bottom frame off errors, a wild pitch, a triple by Ricardo Dela Cruz, and an RBI single by Regis.

Regis sat down the Falcons' top of the order to start the third and the Lions amassed a 14-0 lead in the bottom frame off four hits, a couple of errors, and a bean ball; Iguel knocked an RBI single in the inning.

The Falcons led off the fourth with a triple, but Regis punched out the next three batters as the Lions went on to add five more runs to its margin off three hits, two walks, and some errors.

Regis was untouchable last Saturday and struck out the side again in the top of the fifth for a walk-off finish.

After a shaky first, Regis found his rhythm and gave up one earned run in five innings off one hit, two bean balls, and 12 strikeouts. He also batted 4-for-4 with an RBI, two runs, and two stolen bases.

BIG LEAGUE
Lions 8, Hunters 6

The Speaker Eli Cabrera-Rep. Fred DL Guerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions bit first in last Saturday's Big League matchup with two runs in the bottom of the first off two freebie runs with the bases loaded; the Lions' first five batters reached off a triple and four walks.

The Hunters came up empty to start the second and the Lions added a run in the bottom frame off an error.

After a scoreless third, the Hunters managed a run in the top of the fourth, but the Lions roared back with four runs in the bottom frame to go ahead, 7-1. Brandon Indalecio, Shota Castro, Mark Raymundo, and Richard Dela Cruz all ripped RBI singles.

The Hunters went 1-2-3 to start the fifth and the Lions added a run off a single by Indalecio.

The Hunters managed four runs in the top of the fifth and another run to start the sixth, but were stuffed 1-2-3 in its final stand.

Winning pitcher Mike Iguel went the distance and gave up three earned runs off seven hits and zero walks with six strikeouts.

Hustlers 10, Hunters 0

In last Tuesday's Big League night game, Hustlers broke the ice with five runs in the bottom of the second. The first run came in off an error and Joaquin Muna belted a two-out two-RBI triple; Nokki Saralu later stole home.

Then the Hunters went 1-2-3 to start the third and the Hustlers added a run off an error in the bottom frame.

The Hunters' first base hit came in the top of the fourth, but they left runners on the corners.

The Hunters then left another runner at third to start the fifth and then gave the game away off errors in the bottom frame. The Hunters sat down the first two batters, but the third batter reached off a dropped third strike. From there, all four runs that the Hustlers needed for a mercy rule win came in off a walk, a hit, and a pair of big infield errors.

Winning pitcher Toby Fleming threw a five-inning shutout one-hitter with seven strikeouts and five walks.

4 TSUNAMI

From Page 28

Kimura said.

Kimura added Tsunami Saipan has a strong team in this year's Tokyo Sprint so he is looking for great results from the four swimmers.

In the last three years that Tsunami Saipan had competed in the Tokyo Sprint, only two swimmers made in to the finals. One of them is Kaito Yanai, who will be on his second stint in the annual tournament. In his debut in the Tokyo Sprint last year, the older Yanai took the gold medal in the 100m individual medley. He timed in at 1:15.56 in the 100m IM finals, winning over seven other finalists. Yanai's time in the finals was more than two seconds faster than his qualifying time of 1:18.12. In the qualifying race, Yanai posted the fifth best time among 72 swimmers.

Kai Staal was the other Tsunami Saipan swimmer who advanced to the finals in the Tokyo Sprint. Staal joined the annual competition in 2009 and won a silver medal in the 50m breaststroke and bronze in the 50m freestyle. He clocked in at 32.66 seconds in the 50m breaststroke race to claim the silver medal in the 13 to 14 age group and then submitted 25.63 seconds in the 50m freestyle for a third place finish.

Meanwhile, Tsunami Saipan recognized three swimmers for their perfect attendance in last month's training sessions.

Completing the club's 25-day training session were Kensuke Kimura, Kaito Yanai, and Takumi Sugie. Each swimmer received gift certificates from ice cream parlor Sweets N Treats.

Hiro Kimura said Sweets N Treats will be giving away certificates to Tsunami Saipan swimmers with perfect attendance per month. Then at the end of the season, the club will award plaques to swimmers with perfect attendance for the year.

DEFENDING

From Page 28

athlon last year.

After competing in Tagaman Triathlon, the 22-year-old Hong joined Korea's national team in the 16th Asian Games in Guangzhou, China in December last year. She finished seventh in the elite women's class with a time of 2:10:43.

The Korean triathlete, a former swimmer who took up triathlon in 2008, also participated in three other world-class events last year. She placed 34th in the 2010 Tiszaujvaros ITU Triathlon World Cup in Hungary in August, finished 50th in the 2010 Dextro Energy Triathlon-ITU World Championship Series Seoul in Korea in May, and came in No. 53 in the 2010 Dextro Energy Triathlon-ITU Triathlon World Championship Grand Final in Budapest in September.

Hong's most outstanding finish since 2008 was at the 2009 Dextro Energy Triathlon-ITU World Championship Grand Final (U23 Women) in Gold Coast, Australia, as she made it to the Top 10. She participated in three other ITU events in 2009 and two Asian Cup in 2008.

Meanwhile, about 100 had already registered for this year's Tagaman Triathlon, including men's defending champion Sam Gardner.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	43	15	.741	_
New York	30	28	.517	13
Philadelphia	30	30	.500	14
New Jersey	17	43	.283	27
Toronto	17	44	.279	27 1/2

Southeast Division

Miami	43	17	.717	_
Orlando	39	22	.639	4 1/2
Atlanta	36	24	.600	7
Charlotte	26	33	.441	16 1/2
Washington	15	44	.254	27 1/2

Central Division

Chicago	41	17	.707	_
Indiana	27	32	.458	14 1/2
Milwaukee	23	36	.390	18 1/2
Detroit	22	40	.355	21
Cleveland	11	48	.186	30 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Southwest Division

San Antonio	49	11	.817	_
Dallas	44	16	.733	5
New Orleans	35	27	.565	15
Memphis	34	28	.548	16
Houston	31	31	.500	19

Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	36	22	.621	_
Denver	35	26	.574	2 1/2
Portland	33	27	.550	4
Utah	32	29	.525	5Ω
Minnesota	14	47	.230	23 1/2

Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	43	19	.694	_
Phoenix	31	27	.534	10
Golden State	26	33	.441	15 1/2
L.A. Clippers	21	40	.344	21 1/2
Sacramento	15	43	.259	26

Yesterday's Games

Indiana 109, Golden State 100
Orlando 116, New York 110
Dallas 101, Philadelphia 93
Toronto 96, New Orleans 90
Memphis 109, San Antonio 93
Milwaukee 92, Detroit 90
L.A. Lakers 90, Minnesota 79
Houston 103, Portland 87

NBA LEADERS

Scoring

	G	FG	FT	PTS	AVG
Durant, OKC	54	510	424	1539	28.5
James, MIA	58	530	388	1520	26.2
Stoudemire, NYK	57	559	353	1480	26.0
Wade, MIA	56	512	359	1430	25.5
Anthony, NYK	54	474	372	1367	25.3
Bryant, LAL	62	556	359	1554	25.1
Rose, CHI	57	512	303	1414	24.8
Ellis, GOL	59	549	269	1458	24.7
Howard, ORL	59	487	402	1376	23.3
Martin, HOU	60	402	454	1392	23.2
Griffin, LAC	61	528	332	1395	22.9
Nowitzki, DAL	51	423	265	1164	22.8
Aldridge, POR	60	524	285	1336	22.3
Westbrook, OKC	58	432	394	1278	22.0
Bargnani, TOR	54	447	224	1179	21.8
Granger, IND	58	412	280	1225	21.1
Williams, NJN	56	382	317	1171	20.9
Love, MIN	61	411	373	1275	20.9
Randolph, MEM	57	460	224	1150	20.2
Gay, MEM	54	409	194	1069	19.8

FG Percentage

	FG	FGA	PCT
Hilario, DEN	301	481	.626
Howard, ORL	487	816	.597
A. Johnson, TOR	251	431	.582
Horford, ATL	391	685	.571
Ibaka, OKC	219	393	.557
Young, PHL	323	585	.552
Odom, LAL	357	656	.544
Boozer, CHI	315	589	.535
Millsap, UTA	417	786	.531
Gasol, LAL	441	835	.528

Rebounds

	G	OFF	DEF	TOT	AVG
Love, MIN	61	286	657	943	15.5
Howard, ORL	59	234	584	818	13.9
Randolph, MEM	57	271	474	745	13.1
Griffin, LAC	61	224	537	761	12.5
Gasol, LAL	62	211	441	652	10.5
Horford, ATL	56	147	402	549	9.8
Chandler, DAL	57	158	378	536	9.4
Humphries, NJN	60	163	401	564	9.4
Jefferson, UTA	61	162	401	563	9.2
Duncan, SAN	60	145	403	548	9.1

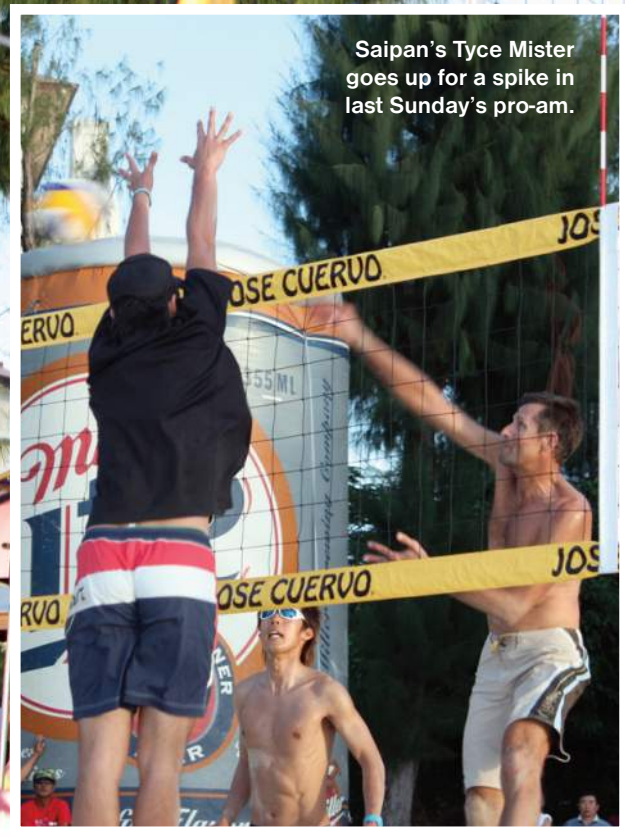
Assists

	G	AST	AVG
Rondo, BOS	47	569	12.1
Nash, PHX	56	638	11.4
Williams, NJN	56	561	10.0
Paul, NOR	62	592	9.5
Calderon, TOR	54	498	9.2
Wall, WAS	47	422	9.0
Felton, DEN	57	507	8.9
Kidd, DAL	60	504	8.4
Westbrook, OKC	58	485	8.4
Rose, CHI	57	464	8.1

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

19th Marianas Cup Pro-Am and Pro Exhibition

PHOTOS By
WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND



Saipan's Tyce Mister goes up for a spike in last Sunday's pro-am.

Jenki Hatabe and Yasuo Nakaya go up for a jump ball in last Sunday's 19th Marianas Cup Pro-Am.

Japan's Yujiro Hikaka goes for a spike in last Friday's Marianas Cup Pro-Exhibition matches held at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan sand court.

Yasuo Nakaya goes up for a block against Daisuke Matsumoto in last Sunday's 19th Marianas Cup Pro-Am at the Fiesta Resort & Spa.

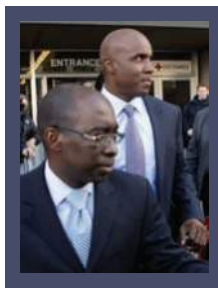
USA's Paul Baxter serves the ball.

Japan's Daisuke Matsumoto passes to compatriot Jenki Hatabe in last Sunday's pro-am.

Jenki Hatabe serves the ball in last Sunday's pro-am.

USA's Billy Strictland and Paul Baxter pose with Japan's Yasuo Nakaya and Yujiro Hikaka after last Friday's Marianas Cup Pro-Exhibition matches.

Tyce Mister clears out a serve in last Sunday's pro-am.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Sports

Howard has 30 to lead Magic past Knicks

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Heo keeps unbeaten streak

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Former CNMI No. 1 junior player Ji Hoon Heo is still unscathed in singles competition in his first season in NCAA Division II.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Ji Hoon Heo makes a return during a home game for Hawaii Pacific University in NCAA Division II tennis competition last month.

ATHLETES ABROAD

Heo's recent singles wins were recorded last weekend when his Hawaii Pacific University team swept its back-to-back games against host University of Hawaii-Hilo.

The HPU Sea Warriors and the Vulcans first met on Feb. 26 with the former escaping with a close 5-4 victory. HPU went 4-for-6 in the singles event with Heo contributing one win after beating Ryan Coffey in straight sets, 6-2, 6-2. Also prevailing for the Sea Warriors in the singles event were Petr Michney, Sebastian Bader, and Sari Alotaibi.

In the doubles, Heo suffered his first loss of the season when he and Bader bowed to Bryan Canavan and Coffey, 8-5. However, HPU kept the slim win after taking one of the two remaining doubles matches.

See HEO on Page 26

Lions roar in Junior, Senior, Big leagues

WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
The Hustlers' Toby Fleming threw a five-inning, one-hit shutout in last Tuesday's Saipan Little League Big Division match-up against the Hunters at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Kagman Lions notched wins in the Junior, Senior and Big divisions as the 2011 Saipan Little League continued at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Island Apparel-Kagman Mobil Station Hustlers, meanwhile, shut out JC Marketing-Toothworks Hunters, 10-0, in five innings in last Tuesday's Big League game.

JUNIOR LEAGUE
Lions 11, Falcons 4

The Lions and Falcons started slow in last Monday's Junior League pairing, but they still managed to score a run apiece in the fourth inning.

The Tan Siu Lin-Rep. Fred DL Guerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions scored its run off a wild pitch, while the Natibu Sports Association Tanapag Falcons starting pitcher Frankie Lieto stole home in the bottom frame.

The Lions then teed off on Lieto in the top of the fifth inning to shoot ahead, 7-0.

The first runs came off a wild pitch and a pair of errors, followed by a two-RBI double from Brel Yobech with the bases loaded; Jesus Dela Cruz later drove in Brel.

The Falcons managed three runs in the bottom of the sixth off a bean ball, an A.J. Evangelista base rip, an error, and a sacrifice fly by Frankie Norita, but were still far from posing a real threat as the Lions answered with four runs to start the seventh off a two-RBI

See 4 LIONS on Page 26

4 Tsunami Saipan swimmers off to Japan

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Kensuke Kimura, seen here competing in the 200m IM in last month's meet at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi, will lead Tsunami Saipan team to the Tokyo Junior Sprint this month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Four Tsunami Saipan swimmers will leave for Japan on March 17 to compete in the 2011 Tokyo Junior Sprint Championships at the Tatsumi International Swimming Stadium.

Tsunami Saipan head coach Hiro Kimura said brothers Kaito and Ryuto Yanai, Lukas Kang, and Kensuke Kimura will represent the club in the U15 tournament that will take place on March 19 and 20.

Ruto Yanai will be competing in the 7-year-old division, while older brother Kaito will join the 11-year-old age group. Kang is entered in the 8-year-old division, while Kensuke Kimura is joining the 14-year-old division.

"The team's target for this year is for everyone to make it to the finals of their respective events," Hiro

See 4 TSUNAMI on Page 26

Defending champion back for Tagaman

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Renata Bucher's bid to reclaim the women's crown in the 2011 Tagaman Triathlon could be in peril as defending champion Dan Bi Hong will be back on Saipan for the March 19 race.

Taga, Inc. president Wolf Mojica said Hong is among the more than 60 Koreans who had already registered for the longest-running triathlon event in the Western Pacific.

Hong stunned spectators waiting at the finish line when she made it to Micro Beach ahead of 2009 champion Bucher and another favorite, U.S. pro Shonny Vanlandingham.

The Korean triathlete completed the two-kilometer swim in the waters off Pacific Islands Club Saipan, the 60-km bike race from the southern to the northern part of the island, and a 15-km run along the scenic Beach Road in three hours, 20 minutes, and 47 seconds. She finished more than three minutes ahead of Vanlandingham (3:23:53) and Bucher (3:24:36). Hong was seventh out of the water at 27:07, 22nd out of 105

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Korean Dan Bi Hong smiles as she crosses the finish line in last year's Tagaman Triathlon.

in the bike at 1:47:48, and ninth (first in women's) in the run leg at 1:04:09 to have a winning debut in Tagaman Tri-

See DEFENDING on Page 26